Reviewer's report

Title: KIR3DS1/L1 and HLA-Bw4-80I affect HIV disease progression among HIV typical progressors and long-term nonprogressors

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Reviewer: Francesco Trapasso

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In their manuscript, Jiang and colleagues have investigated the role of KIR3DS1/L1 and HLA-Bw4-80I in HIV disease progression. To this purpose, the authors have investigated the KIR-HLA genotypes in a cohort of Chinese patients infected by HIV; as a result they found that the KIR3DL1+KIR3DS1+HLA-Bw4-80I+ genotypes was mainly present in long-term nonprogressors versus typical progressors, whereas KIR3DL1+KIR3DS1-HLA-Bw4-80I- was mainly associated to higher viral loads and lower CD4+ T cell counts, proposing KIR-HLA genotypes as candidate genetic markers of disease progression in HIV patients.

Even though the study was performed in a relatively small group of patients of restricted ethnicity, this investigation is of great interest because it proposes the possibility of candidate predictors in the outcome of HIV-infected patients. The manuscript is well written and both experiments and results are enough to support the authors’ conclusions.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests