Reviewer's report

Title: A Population-Based Study to Investigate Host Genetic Factors Associated with Hepatitis B Infection and Pathogenesis in the Chinese Population

Version: 1 Date: 3 October 2007

Reviewer: Robert Rubin

Reviewer's report:

General

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Major Compulsory Revisions:
- How would you stratify these patients to improve the quality of any study of management.
- What is your conclusion about the value of these measurements; does this affect clinical management?
- Do these data lead to a theory?

Minor Essential Revisions:
- What will you do with these findings? Will they give you an opportunity to teach others?

What next?: Accept without revision

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:
Major Compulsory Revisions:
- How would you stratify these patients to improve the quality of any study of management.
- What is your conclusion about the value of these measurements; does this affect clinical management?
- Do these data lead to a theory?

Minor Essential Revisions:
- What will you do with these findings? Will they give you an opportunity to teach others?