Reviewer’s report

Title: HLA-DR and HLA-DQ alleles in patients from the south of Brazil: markers for leprosy susceptibility and resistance

Version: 4 Date: 26 June 2009

Reviewer: Anna I. Dubaniewicz

Reviewer’s report:

• The Authors should be supplemented this study with:
  # the data concerning Borderline subgroup of patients with leprosy
  # the clinical pictures of the particular tested subgroups of patients and the information concerning number of homozygotes and heterozygotes.
• The Authors do not know, what the Bonferroni correction is and they have done a lot mistakes in current study (the results section and table, for example DRB1*16, DRB1*04, DRB1*08, DRB1*14).
• We know that leprosy per se group has different genetic background, therefore this comparison is not invalid. The Authors should be compare LL, TT, BL, C groups each other, not only LL with TT, because we have to compare obtained results from patients subgroups with Control.
• The Authors should be explain why they have performed the high resolution method to evaluation of occurrence only DRB1*04, DRB1*09 and DRB1*16.
• There are many topographical errors, for example, in the Abstract section, some sentences were started from small letters.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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