Reviewer’s report

Title: Search for Cardiac Calcium Cycling Gene Mutations in Familial Ventricular Arrhythmias Resembling Catecholaminergic Polymorphic Ventricular Tachycardia

Version: 1 Date: 28 July 2008

Reviewer: Martin Farr

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Major Compulsory Revisions:

The description of the index patients' families (genotypes/phenotypes) remains unclear. It would help to depict the family trees, even if there are no other genetically positive relatives. What is "The rest of the family" of the R1051P index patient - are the parents included, are they genetically negative?! In this paragraph you have to guess that it is concerned with the R1051P mutation until you read it at the end ...

For scientific reasons the paternity of the S616L patient’s father should be verified. This is important to substantiate the statement 'de novo mutation'.

A 'limitation of study' should be added as the number of patients is not high enough to detect mutations less frequent than the RyR2 mutation (only 2 index patients represent 14 percent). Why did the authors expect mutations in the genes tested as/more frequent than in the RyR2?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.