Reviewer's report

**Title:** Replication of Associations between Three Positionally Cloned Asthma Candidate Genes and Asthma or Asthma-related Phenotypes in A Chinese Population

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 21 July 2009

**Reviewer:** Malcolm Blumenthal

**Reviewer's report:**

The author response to the editor is adequate.

The response regarding the introduction is adequate.

The following comments about revisions are somewhat bothersome. The response regarding the environmental and genetic factors is still not adequate. Even though this is a replication study one needs this information. To me replications may be biased. I think I understand where they are coming from but do not fully understand their comments.

The next responses are not adequate and the explanations used are not up to my satisfaction. The PHF11, DPP10 and HLA-G comments are restating the obvious. The comments regarding type I errors and stratification are not very convincing and some of their comments are not completely true.

Based on my reassessment of the manuscript I feel it should still be revised before acceptance. Some are discretionary and minor a few should be definitely clarified. It is an interesting paper but I do not feel in its present form it adds much to the literature.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no competing interest in this paper.