Reviewer's report

Title: Association study of the HLA-DRB1 locus reveals the first evidence for the association of HLA-DRB1*15 and DRB1*09 with leprosy and the impact of DRB1*09 on the onset of disease in Chinese population

Version: 4 Date: 21 August 2009

Reviewer: Milton O Moraes

Reviewer's report:

Authors should review the statement concerning the authorship of "leprosy per se" theory at the discussion. I guess that they should not claim that Casanova JL described the theory. Other researchers came up with the idea earlier.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'