Reviewer’s report

Title: E-selectin gene polymorphisms are associated with essential hypertension: a case-control pilot study in Chinese

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Reviewer: Tomohiro Katsuya

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Wang Z et al examined the association between single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) of E-selectin gene (SELE) and predisposition to essential hypertension using Han-Chinese population, resulted that C602A and T1559C polymorphisms were significantly associated with increase risk for hypertension. Even though the number of subjects examined was not small to discuss the statistical significance of the genetic disease susceptibility and the method in this study seems to be appropriate, there are many insufficient format and descriptions in the text. The following comments should be responded appropriately.

In the abstract, the method was not appeared and the results were too much.
The official nomenclature of E-selectin gene is SELE, and should be indicated in italic.
The substantial reasons to choose 3 representative SNPs of SELE in this study were not stated in the text.

How did the authors ascertain the healthy normotensive subjects at Anzhen Hospital? Did the participants visit hospital for general check-up?

Why did the authors ruled out severe hypertensive subjects from cases?

As a result of haplotype analysis using SNPAllyze, the authors should show the linkage disequilibrium data and haplotype block as a figure.
The notation of SNPs should be unified throughout the text.

If the authors consider the effect of gender as a confounding factor on the association between SELE SNPs and hypertension, they should discuss the underlying mechanisms.

The risk of overestimation of the statistical significance in the situation of the low allele frequency should be described as a study limitation in the discussion.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.