Reviewer's report

Title: Exploring multilocus associations of inflammation genes and colorectal cancer risk using hapConstructor

Version: 1 Date: 26 January 2010

Reviewer: Pavel Vodicka

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript entitled Exploring multilocus associations... by Curtin et al. represents an interesting contribution to the field of colon and rectal cancer susceptibilities, especially regarding gene-gene interactions and the role of haplotypes. As the study has been conducted on a fairly large and well-characterized population, it undoubtedly merits publication.

There are few rather minor comments:

Authors paid considerable attention to the technical and statistical approach, while the biological relevance of their findings is relatively hidden. It should be more highlighted.

Background section (page 5), second line from the top: the sentence The single nucleotide polymorphism...does not appear clear to the reader and the simplification or rephrasing would be desirable.

Page 5, last sentence ...Our findings may rather fit better to the Results.

Page 7, The study population have been previously described in details. However, few summarizing information upon the studied cohorts should be included into the present manuscript as well (a short Table?).

Page 8, the sentence The duplicate concordance... is not completely clear.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.