Reviewer's report

**Title:** Polymorphisms in IL-1beta, Vitamin D Receptor Fok1, and Toll-like Receptor 2 Are Associated with Extrapulmonary Tuberculosis

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 27 May 2009

**Reviewer:** Fumio Kishi

**Reviewer's report:**

In this study, the authors investigated several polymorphisms among three groups, extrapulmonary tuberculosis cases, pulmonary tuberculosis controls and PPD+ controls. They concluded that genetic variants in IL1-beta, VDF-Fok1 and TLR2 were associated with the risk of extrapulmonary tuberculosis.

The authors chose Multifactor Dimensionality Reduction (MDR) analysis because the number of samples was small. Even though MDR analysis is a powerful method for small size samples, the sample number is not enough in this study. It is necessary the authors collect much more number of samples, such as more than 50 or more.

They described gene variants of VDF-Fok1 and TLR2 are important especially for blacks. As compared to blacks, the number of whites or asians analyzed is too small. Whether the gene variants are specific to blacks could not be judged properly.

The style of references is not consistent through the ref number 1-50. The authors should confirm the style appeared in ref.

The tables, page 21-27, is not arranged in the order of explanations appeared in the section of results. For example, Table3 is first in the text. Need better arrange.

**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 no competing interests.