Reviewer's report

Title: Polymorphisms in the coagulation factor VII gene and the risk of coronary heart disease: a meta-analysis

Version: 1 Date: 1 April 2011

Reviewer: Caroline Hayward

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

This paper is an "updated" meta-analysis of literature findings of FVII polymorphisms associated with CHD. Literature only surveys can be difficult to perform.

1. I am confused e.g. as in the present study of R353Q there are fewer controls for than in the earlier one (10,789 compared with 12,110) Were the studies out of HWE excluded? An explanation is required, as the crux of the paper is to assess which of the 2 previous meta-analyses is correct.

2. Although the data seems to have been appropriately analysed and checks appear to have been completed for study bias etc I found the interpretation of these in the discussion difficult to follow. It may be more appropriate to emphasise the difference between Asian and European cohorts.

Minor Essential Revisions

Table 1 Should have rows with totals for Europeans, Asians and others for each category as well as the total for all. This would make it easier to follow the data.

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests