Reviewer’s report

Title: High frequency of known copy number abnormalities and maternal duplication 15q11-1q13 in patients with combined schizophrenia and epilepsy

Version: 3 Date: 23 August 2011

Reviewer: James Rucker

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript has been revised and improved. Whilst there are significant limitations to this study, the authors have now made these more explicit in the manuscript and provided a good level for further methodological detail in the supplementary information. I think that the amount of controls excluded deserves more discussion, as they probably represent a quite particular group in themselves- perhaps the control group has an abnormally low prevalence of CNVs, rather than the cases that have an abnormally high prevalence. This is just a thought for discussion, and not of critical importance.

I have one further request, which is that the statistical test being used for the numbers comparison is stated in the text. I assume they used a Fisher’s exact test, but this is not stated as far as I can see. An odds ratio would also allow some estimate of effect size.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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