Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluation of variants in the selectin genes in age-related macular degeneration.

Version: 2 Date: 18 January 2011

Reviewer: Sarah Ennis

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions

1) It is not clear, the degree to which the expression findings were consistent/reproduced across the multiple donor tissues - this should be clarified.

2) Reference to previous work by Bojanowski on E-selectin (Analysis of Hemicentin-1, hOgg1, and E-selectin single nucleotide polymorphisms in age-related macular degeneration.) need inclusion.

3) Table 1 should be included as part of the manuscript and contain an additional column reporting p-values for Hardy Weinberg Equilibrium in the controls (one could sacrifice the "spacing" column to maintain table size as physical distance rather than genetic distance in linkage disequilibrium units adds little).

4) The use of the term "ancestral" is a little misleading (suggestive of evolutionary type analyses) and in most cases I believe it is being used to refer to "common" SNPs. Use of the word "common" would be more accurate and clear.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.