Title: An association study on contrasting cystic fibrosis endophenotypes recognizes KRT8 but not KRT18 as a modifier of cystic fibrosis disease severity and CFTR mediated residual chloride secretion

Version: 2 Date: 7 March 2011

Reviewer: Lisa Strug

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
- there are a variety of typos throughout the manuscript that require correction; especially in the newly added text. For example, pages 5 and 16.

Discretionary Revisions:
- it is still unclear why the composite parameter is preferable. Some reporting on heritability would clear this up, especially when contrasting heritability across the various possible individual phenotypes from which the composite was calculated.
- Seems all discussion of the endophenotype can now be removed since the authors are no longer referring to THEIR phenotype as an endophenotype.

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.