Reviewer's report

**Title:** TGFB1 genetic polymorphisms and coronary heart disease risk: a meta-analysis

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 16 October 2011

**Reviewer:** Jitender Kumar

**Reviewer's report:**

Major Compulsory Revisions:

**Introduction:**
The authors should mention a few lines about the importance of genome-wide association studies in understanding the complex disorders including coronary heart disease.

**Methods Section:**
Since various models were used in the analysis, the authors should adjust the significance for multiple testing.

**Results Section:**
1. Page 9, para 2 is already mentioned in the table and doesn't need to be mentioned in the text.
2. It is mentioned that Iranian study (Ref 11) was dropped from the meta-analysis due to the HWE issue, data for SNP rs1982073 was still utilized in the meta-analysis.
   This needs to be clarified.
3. In the quantitative synthesis, the text has already been explained in the figures and can be shortened in one or two sentences.
4. The format for additional files is not understandable and could not be opened using the routine programmes available.
5. All the studies included for the meta-analysis were from Caucasian population except for one SNP (rs1982073) where Japanese population is included. The heterogeneity issue therefore may be ignored.

**Discussion:**
6. No mention of the studied polymorphisms was made in the discussion part. Authors are expected to throw some light on the similarities or differences among the results for studied polymorphisms in the original studies with the current meta-analysis and what are their biological implications.

Minor Revision:

Expand SMAD3 gene in the discussion.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest
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 that I have no competing interests