Reviewer’s report

Title: Genetic analysis of polymorphisms in the kalirin gene for association with age-at-onset in European Huntington disease patients

Version: 2 Date: 16 January 2012

Reviewer: Patrick Weydt

Reviewer’s report:

This a well executed candidate-gene approach study of kalirin as a genetic modifier in HD. The hypothesis, the quality of the data, the analysis and the presentation of the conclusions are clear and sound. It is anti-climactic that the results are negative, but it is important, that well done and valid negative studies are communicate.

Discretionary revisions:
1. the authors should consider, if the data is readily available, to include the effect of the non-expanded CAG repeat in their analysis.
2. for the convenience of the reader, the authors might consider to include the recent 2012 review by arning and epplen on genetic modifiers in HD (Future Neurology, January 2012, Vol. 7, No. 1, Pages 93-109.) in their references.

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