Reviewer's report

**Title:** Sequencing of NOTCH1, GATA5, TGFBR1 AND TGFBR2 genes in familial cases of Bicuspid Aortic Valve

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 30 January 2013

**Reviewer:** Kim McBride

**Reviewer's report:**

My major concerns have been addressed.

The paper requires further editing for errors, clarity, and language. For example, in the results of the abstract, the mutations are a missense and a nonsense, and None pathogenic should be No pathogenic. In the results of the main paper I am assuming instrumental analysis means echocardiography? If so, please use that term. Variants should be consistently described correctly, such as p.P284L (note the p.).

Results section needs to be shortened. The findings are in the Tables so they do not need to be repeated in the text. Please proof read the paper carefully as there are other errors.

Focus the discussion only on the NOTCH1 findings since the GATA5, TGFBR1 & 2 are known polymorphisms.

The manuscript should be edited for English grammar and wording.

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

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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.