Reviewer’s report

Title: Whole-exome sequencing identifies MYO15A mutations as a cause of autosomal recessive nonsyndromic hearing loss in Korean families

Version: 1 Date: 12 March 2013

Reviewer: Mustafa Tekin

Reviewer’s report:

This manuscript presents results of WES in Korean families with autosomal recessive nonsyndromic deafness. One family was found to have novel compound heterozygous mutations and another novel heterozygous mutation was found in another family. This is the first example of a MYO15A mutation in a Korean family and also shows the applicability of WES in nonsyndromic deafness. The study is sound and manuscript is well written.

Minor Points:
1) Language errors should be corrected. A few examples:
Abstract Methods: "...mutation..." should be "..mutations."; "...nonsndromic..." should be "...nonsyndromic...
Abstract Conclusion: insert "an" between "in" and "East"; second sentence "Asian" should be "Asia"; Remove "And" from the third sentence.
Background: 3rd paragraph should start as "Mutations in MYO15A are..."; last sentence of Background should be corrected as "...families, who have MYO15A mutations."
Discussion: 5th paragraph- correct reference "(Wu and others 2011)"; paragraph 6- insert "in" between "absent" and "409"

2. Include a recent paper (Diaz-Horta et al., PlosOne, 2012) reporting mutation search in deafness genes, including MYO15A, using WES in the discussion.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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:

no interest