Reviewer's report

**Title:** Associations between interleukin-1 gene polymorphisms and sepsis risk: a meta-analysis

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 24 September 2013

**Reviewer:** David Jeffries

**Reviewer's report:**

**Major Compulsory Revisions**

1. Forest plots should be used to compare study results with those from the meta analyses
2. The subset analyses introduce multiple testing issues which have not been addressed
3. There is a lack of discussion on the different definitions of sepsis
4. Figures 2, 3 and 4 are not suitable for publication

**Minor Essential Revisions**

1. The results description should be simplified with the addition of graphical comparisons

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

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

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.