**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Genetic study of common variants at the Apo E, Apo AI, Apo CIII, Apo B, LP(a), lipoprotein lipase (LPL) and hepatic lipase (LIPC) genes and coronary artery disease (CAD): variation in LIPC gene associates with clinical outcomes in patients with established CAD

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**Reviewer:** David E Wilcken

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

**Advice on publication:** Accept without revision

This well conducted study identifies, in a relatively small number of patients with angiographically confirmed premature coronary artery disease, an association between the lipoprotein lipase T202T gene variant and disease progression during an interval of 8 years. This association is shown to be in addition to the expected predictive lipid and other variables assessed in the study. The authors suggest that the T202T variant, which is in linkage disequilibrium with the L334F and several other polymorphisms shown to be associated with impaired hepatic lipase activity, is a simple marker for reduced activity of the enzyme. This seems a valid conclusion.

**Competing interests:**

None declared.