Reviewer's report

Title: Allele frequencies of hemojuvelin gene (HJV) I222N and G320V missense mutations in white and African American subjects from the general Alabama population

Version: 1 Date: 30 September 2004

Reviewer: Cornelia van Duijn

Reviewer's report:

I have reviewed the paper of Barton et al. The paper reports on the prevalence of HJV mutations in Alabama white and African Americans. The findings of the study are not of high scientific interest. The study is too small to address the rare mutations studied. The methods/abstracts misses the number of persons studied and the methods misses a power calculation. In the results no information is given what the biochemical findings in the 29 year old cancer mean in terms of clinical relevance.

Given these considerations, I advice to regret the paper.

What next?: Reject because scientifically unsound