Reviewer's report

Title: Aging Syndrome Genes and Premature Coronary Artery Disease

Version: 1 Date: 28 March 2005

Reviewer: Heribert Schunkert

Reviewer's report:

General

In the manuscript "Aging Syndrome Genes and Premature Coronary Artery Disease" Low et al. investigated whether common variants in the lamin A/C gene or Klotho gene are associated with premature coronary artery disease.

This is an interesting observation in a very small study population. There are some major comments that have to be clarified.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. The study population is very small. With respect to the negative result of this observation a second and much larger sample needs to be studied in order to improve the power and to exclude false negative association.
2. Both genes are involved in the pathogenetic pathway of atherosclerosis and calcification. Therefore, the degree of coronary calcification should be analysed and included in the observation.
3. The manuscript needs to be rewritten in some parts: For example: The Background section of the Abstract is twice long as the Results and Conclusion section together. Moreover, the references are not adequate in some points, i.e. the twin study of Marenberg is not included and many reviews are included.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

4. There are lot of spelling mistakes in the manuscript, for example: line 1 in the abstract â€œvascularâ€, line 1 in the conclusions section of the abstract â€œsupportâ€.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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

Declaration of competing interests: