Reviewer's report

Title: The frequent BRCA1 mutation 1135insA has multiple origins: a haplotype study in diverse ethnic groups

Version: 1 Date: 1 October 2005

Reviewer: Jeffery Struwing

Reviewer's report:

General
This is a fairly straightforward analysis of a recurrent BRCA1 mutation, 1135insA, that has been documented to occur on at least 2 different haplotypes. My only general caution/question is whether any/many groups are doing targeted analysis before full sequencing - I don't sense that many groups are, though I could be wrong. Perhaps even softening the abstract's last sentence to something more like "If targeted mutation testing is performed exclusively or prior to more complete analysis, our findings suggest that the 1135insA should be included.....

None.

Reference (1) on page 3 must be incorrect, as it is a BRCA2 paper.
The italicized "ins" in 1135insA may not be standard.

P 3 - "Frequent mutations..." why "frequent", maybe "recurrent"
P5 - consider "...are consistent with..." instead of "...confirm that..."
P 7 - consider "...in a homopolymer tract..." instead of "...at a hot spot for mutations..."

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'