Reviewer’s report

Title: Contribution of germline BRCA1 and BRCA2 sequence alterations to breast cancer in Northern India.

Version: Date: 29 May 2006

Reviewer: Fernando Schmitt

Reviewer’s report:

Inherited predisposition to breast and ovarian cancer due to mutations in the BRCA genes has been thoroughly described in the medical literature over the last years, being population based studies of major importance in determining the types of screening to be conducted for mutation detection what makes this article biologically and medically relevant.

Even though the article has been undoubtedly improved there are minor points that still require the attention of the authors, namely:

1- The percentage of controls is still inferior to the breast cancer population studied. Also 40% of male controls are a very large number if we take into account that in the study group the authors only study approximately 4% of male subjects (8/204).

2- The text must be carefully looked at because there are still some inconsistencies in terms of English, and also in the summary part the mutation A2951T misses the T.

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: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.