Reviewer’s report

Title: The effect of ABCA1 gene polymorphisms on ischaemic stroke risk and relationship with lipid profile

Version: 2 Date: 4 February 2007

Reviewer: Marta Tomas

Reviewer’s report:

General

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

1. The authors did not answer the previous point: analysis regarding the stroke risk has not been adjusted for any variable that appeared significantly different among cases and controls in the bivariate analysis (age, hypertension, diabetes).

2. Table presented in Table from Answer 3 to Reviewer3 should appear in the paper instead of the current Table 3.

3. Smoking is not analysed in Table 1 as the authors described in text from Methods (Data analysis).

4. Is sex ratio difference between cases and controls not significant in Table 1?

5. Is there any strong linkage among the polymorphisms in order to justify the haplotype analysis? Which is the degree of linkage disequilibrium between the analysed polymorphisms?

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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)

Cholesterol and TG unit are lacking in the table 1.

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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 of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.