Reviewer's report

Title: Lack of association between the chemokine receptor 5 polymorphism CCR5delta32 in rheumatoid arthritis and juvenile idiopathic arthritis

Version: 2 Date: 14 May 2007

Reviewer: Sampath Prahalad

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)
None

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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)

The authors have responded to the critiques of the previous version of the paper.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore) It might be better if the sentence about a haplotype containing CCR5 D32 and -1835T (just before conclusion) was edited. As it stands the sentence suggests that an etiological variant on a haplotype that contains both these polymorphisms (CCR5D32 and -1835T) might be responsible for JIA/RA.

However, the -1835T SNP and CCR5D32 are not in LD and are on two different haplotypes. In the article they cite, the haplotype that did not contain either of these polymorphisms appeared to be significantly associated with susceptibility to early onset JIA. Hence the authors could consider rewording that sentence.

What next?: Accept without revision

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

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