Reviewer's report

Title: Mutations in the 3'-untranslated region of GATA4 as molecular hotspots for congenital heart disease (CHD)

Version: 3 Date: 5 May 2007
Reviewer: Giuseppe Novelli

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)
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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)
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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
Minor Essential revisions

1. Since the authors indicate that they were able to amplify the first 609 bp of the 3'UTR of GATA 4 they should change in the abstract and in the background sections (page 5 line2) the term “1,525 bp of 3'UTR”.
2. The authors should modify Table 3, indicating with a different character (for example in bold) the new sequence variations in the coding region of GATA4 found in this manuscript.
3. The authors should add in the discussion section a comment, based on the result summarized in Table 3, regarding the possibility of a genotype-phenotype correlation.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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