Reviewer's report

Title: C4B null alleles are not associated with genetic polymorphisms in the adjacent gene CYP21A2 in autism

Version: 1 Date: 26 September 2007

Reviewer: Daniel Campbell

Reviewer's report:

General
This is an outstanding presentation of negative results. The tested hypothesis was that mutations within the CYP21A2 gene would be associated with the C4B allele, which is associated with autism susceptibility. CYP21A2 encodes the 21-hydroxylase gene, which functions in maintaining proper androgen levels and thus the hypothesis that its function might be altered in autism is reasonable. However, the data do not support a role for CYP21A2 in autism vulnerability.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
None.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
1. The reference in Figure legend 1 should conform to literature citations in the text. That is "[7]" instead of "(Blanchong et al 2000)".

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
None.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.