Reviewer's report

Title: Array based characterization of the terminal deletion of chromosome 15q26.2: An emerging syndrome associated with growth retardation, cardiac defects and developmental delay

Version: 2 Date: 11 October 2007

Reviewer: Anne Slavotinek

Reviewer's report:

This paper describes a female with a de novo dicentric chromosome 15 associated with a 6.4 Mb terminal deletion of chromosome 15 that was mapped using FISH and array CGH. Although this is an interesting case, the figures are too small to show the authors results – these must be improved prior to reconsideration for publication. There are many details that could also have been added, both to the discussion and to the Case report. For example, parental ages, growth centiles, presence of single umbilical vessel and talipes as found in other cases of 15q26 deletions should be noted. There is a new review paper by Klaassens in Am J Med Genet in 2007 and details of other published patients can be found in Slavotinek, J Med Genet 2006 and these could improve the quality of the paper. In addition, the discussion should mention other genes besides IGFR1 that could account for the cardiac defects. These areas also need to be addressed before reconsideration for publication.

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: Needs some language corrections before being published

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