Reviewer's report

Title: Variation in limbic system-associated membrane protein gene is associated to male completed suicide

Version: 1 Date: 26 November 2007

Reviewer: Peter Zill

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors describe an association study between 32 SNPs in the LSAMP gene and competed suicide in male victims. They found a significant relation between 4 SNPs and competed suicide which was confirmed by haplotype analysis.

In general the paper is well written, but there are some points of criticism.

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Major Compulsory Revisions

The major weakness of the study is the fact that the authors did not apply a Bonferroni correction for their significant results. After correction for multiple testing their results are no longer statistically significant.

The authors investigated male suicide victims, but there is no description in the text whether there are also no females in the control sample.

I do not understand the haplotype analysis. The authors did not give any overview about the degree of LD between all investigated SNPs, but determine 5 haplotype blocks according to the LD measurement. This is not understandable for the reader.

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Minor Essential Revisions

The abbreviation of the gene name (LSAMP) should be mentioned in the title.

In table 1 the allele frequencies should be presented for the major or minor allele and not for the associated allele (not all alleles are associated).

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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 whose findings are important to those with closely
related research interests

**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.