Reviewer's report

Title: Identical twins: one with anti-glomerular basement membrane glomerulonephritis and the other with systemic lupus erythematosus

Version: 2 Date: 4 April 2013

Reviewer: Masayuki Iyoda

Reviewer's report:

To the authors,

In this manuscript, Liu et al. documented very rare case of two identical twins; one was diagnosed as anti-GBM glomerulonephritis, the other with SLE. The author suggested the genetic relationship between these two diseases. The authors should address the following issue.

Minor essential revisions,

1. What kinds of epigenetic factors are suggested in previous papers in anti-GBM glomerulonephritis and SLE?
2. You should cite Li’s paper in Scand J Rheumatol (Li CH et al. Scand J Rheumatol 2006 May;35(3):201-8) that also indicates the relationship between anti-GBM glomerulonephritis and SLE in Chinese patients.
3. Please give us more information about how important HLA-DRB1*1501 is in the development of anti-GBM glomerulonephritis and SLE.
4. Citation is needed for the statement in Page 9 Lines 14-15 ‘The concordance rate of lupus in identical twins is greater than in the general population, but it is still incomplete.’

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.