Reviewer's report

Title: Endothelial Nitric Oxide Synthase Gene Polymorphism (Glu298Asp) and Development of Pre-eclampsia: a nested case-control study and a meta-analysis.

Version: 2 Date: 3 January 2006

Reviewer: Georgia Salanti

Reviewer's report:

The authors improved considerably the manuscript. However, I would like to draw their attention to two issues.

1. Response to comment (d): My first issue is their reluctance to provide the non-significant estimates for the covariates tested arguing that "by doing that, we may disperse the readers attention from the genetic factors". In genetic epidemiology, a field abundant in spurious findings due to multiple testing and chance (both in the tested association itself as in the environmental interactions), reporting non-significant findings is encouraged. BioMed central, being an online journal with no word or table limitations, offers an excellent opportunity for investigators to present their results properly. The author's argument is therefore not convincing.

2. Response to (comment 3): The authors did not respond appropriately to my comment about performing a stratified analysis (for example by ethnicity) for the case control study. My request is to provide ORs for each ethnic group. The approach that the authors have adopted (to report and test the ethnic distribution in cases and controls) is not informative enough.

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