Reviewer’s report

Title: Association between the Cytotoxic T-Lymphocyte Antigen 4 +49G>A polymorphism and cancer risk: a meta-analysis

Version: 2 Date: 23 July 2010

Reviewer: John A Hansen

Reviewer’s report:

This paper reports on a meta-analysis of genotype data derived from 32 published studies of a SNP in the CTLA-4 gene (position +49G>A) that has been variably associated with increased risk of cancer. Results of this meta-analysis demonstrate that there is a significant association of the minor allele, CTLA-4/+49*A with increased risk of cancer in Caucasians and Chinese. These are important findings and will certainly contribute to the understanding of this genetic association and encourage additional research in exploring related pathways that may also contribute to risk.

The question posed by the authors is well defined, the methods are appropriate, the data appears to be sound, and the discussion and conclusions are clearly presented and supported by the data.

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: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.