Reviewer’s report

Title: The 4q27 locus and familial prostate cancer risk

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Reviewer: hankui chen

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Minor Essential Revisions:

1. The authors genotyped seven variants within 4q27 locus clustering IL2 and IL-21 for possible association with prostate cancer risk in 825 European descent cases and 734 controls. Their results do not support an association between the seven variants at 4q27 and prostate cancer risk. However, they show suggestive evidence for a significant association between rs13119723 located in KIAA1109 and men with a family history of prostate cancer in first-degree relatives ($P=0.02$) with odd ratio at 2.37(1.01-5.57). So, the criteria for family history of prostate cancer, which were not shown in the “Methods-Study Population”, should be described in details.

2. In the “discussion (the second paragraph)”, the sentence “The potential of…and suggestions that..., implicates...” contains some grammar error. The author should check it and make it clear.

3. In the “Figures Legend-Figure 1”, it should be figured out which NCBI Build Version was used for the physical position in Figure 1 (top).

Discretionary Revisions:

4. In the “Results (the second paragraph)” or the “Discussion (the 6th paragraph)”, it would be better if the authors add some words to show the risk allele of rs13119723 with disease risk and its position in the intron of KIAA1109.

5. Are the PSA data available for the case and control samples the authors used in this study? It is worthy to test whether IL-2/IL-21 variants are related with the PSA level in pca cases.

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.