Reviewer's report

Title: Inflammatory Gene Variants and the Risk of Biliary Tract Cancers and Stones: A Population-Based Study in China

Version: 1 Date: 29 June 2012

Reviewer: Balraj Mittal

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory revision: None

Minor essential revision: The study design, results and conclusions are fine. However, the Discussion appears a bit mechanical. It can focus more in-depth role of inflammation in biliary diseases, The authors did not get any differential association in patients with/without gallstones but inflammatory pathway is mainly linked to stone-induced cancer. Therefore, these points should be discussed. Also, the inflammatory cascade from already known or new genes from this study may be proposed.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests