Reviewer's report

Title: The TERT rs2736100 Polymorphism and Cancer Risk: A Meta-analysis Based on 24 Case-Control Studies

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Reviewer: Hemant Bid

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting study, particularly with reference to the "The TERT rs2736100 Polymorphism and Cancer Risk: A Meta-analysis Based on 24 Case-Control Studies"

I have a number of comments, which need to be addressed, before even considering this paper for publication.

1. In the present study how the variants with significant associations by meta-analysis were assessed and by which criteria?

2. In the abstract section methodology and conclusion should be discussed in more detailed.

3. Under the background this sentence seems incomplete “Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death”

4. Did all the methods were based on guidelines proposed by the Human Genome Epidemiology Network for systematic review of genetic-association studies

5. Under the heading "Data extracted" some information is mission and if authors include these points that will give a better insight and clarity of the study

From each eligible publication they should also include: PubMed identifier number, study design, method of case selection, matching factors if applicable, source population, mean ages of cases and controls, sample size, variants, major and minor alleles, genotype counts for cases and controls, Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) among controls and genotyping methods used.

6. For the evaluation of meta-analysis results did the authors included a test of heterogeneity, sensitivity analyses, and examination for rule-out bias?

7. Limitations of this research study must be addressed?

8. What is the justification not to include rs2853676 TERT polymorphism in the current meta-analysis

9. The first paragraph of Discussion is very generalized

10. Discussion part is not properly discussed and need to rewrite?
Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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