Reviewer's report

Title: Identification of a novel CHEK2 variant and assessment of its contribution to the risk of breast cancer in French Canadian women

Version: 1 Date: 27 March 2008

Reviewer: Petr Pohlreich

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated the frequency of the novel CHEK2 missense variant, R406H, in 692 breast cancer patients and compared it with the variant frequency in 6573 controls. No significant difference in allele distribution was observed.

The authors concluded that it is unlikely that CHEK2 alleles other than 1100delC significantly influence familial breast cancer risk in the French Canadian population.

The manuscript is concise and well built, data are clearly presented.

Discretionary Revisions

1. Some papers have suggested that the frequency of mutations identified in low penetrance genes was increased in familial but not in sporadic breast cancer. Could the authors please test this in their data-set?

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