Reviewer's report

Title: Association between an 8q24 locus and the risk of colorectal cancer in Japanese.

Version: 2 Date: 31 July 2009

Reviewer: Sonja Berndt

Reviewer's report:

The study has been revised according to the reviewers' comments. However, some minor problems and lingering typos remain. There are a number of grammatical and typo graphical errors. For example, in the abstract, rs698326 should be rs6983267.

Other minor comments:

In the methods, it is not entirely clear how the interactions were modeled. Was the SNP assumed to be linear when crossed with the potential effect modifiers?

Discussion: Two papers were recently published in Nature Genetics discussing the potential functional significance of the 8q24 region.

Table 1: ‘Non’ should be ‘None’. The quantities in the categories of alcohol, folate, bmi and physical activity should be made clearer. For some, the < or > sign is missing. Middle categories are often described as < X, even if there is another category below.

Table 2: The genotype model is labeled with ‘TG’ and ‘GG’, but these are only appropriate for rs6983267, not rs10090154 which is a C>T transition.

Table 3: Some of the same problems as Table 1. OR for females (model 1) is incorrect.


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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