Reviewer’s report

Title: High resolution human leukocyte antigen (HLA) class I and class II allele typing in Mexican mestizo women with sporadic breast cancer: case-control study.

Version: 1 Date: 10 November 2008

Reviewer: Anlong Xu

Reviewer’s report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  In Material and Method part the authors claimed that they did the correction for multiple tests with Bonferroni’s method, but they did not show it in the Results actually. And the tests for association between HLA haplotype and breast cancer was not there too although they claimed they did it.

- Minor Essential Revisions
  The authors used PCR-SSO method to do the HLA typing.
  page 9: “HLA-DQA1 and -DQB1 typing were performed by a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) procedure using Taq DNA polymerase (Promega, Madison, WI, USA) and hybridization with PCR sequence-specific oligonucleotide probes (PCR-SSOP).” It is very unclear to describe this method. It should be “HLA-DQA 1 and –DQB1 were amplified by PCR and hybridized to sequence specific oligonucleotide probes.

- Discretionary Revisions
  Based on your assessment of the validity of the manuscript, what do you advise should be the next step?
  - Accept without revision

Level of interest
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- An article of limited interest

Quality of written English
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- Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review
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Is it essential that this manuscript be seen by an expert statistician?
- Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests

- Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper, either now or in the future?
  No.
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  No.
- Do you have any other financial competing interests?
  NO.
- Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?
  NO.

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

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