Reviewer’s report

Title: Association of the rs6982567 near GDF6 with neovascular age-related macular degeneration and polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy in a Han Chinese cohort

Version: 2 Date: 26 August 2014

Reviewer: Nageswara Rao Kollu

Reviewer’s report:

To the Editor and Authors,

Age related macular degeneration (AMD) is complex genetic disorder and is the third leading cause of blindness among worldwide. Genetic replication studies are gold standard for understanding the genetic etiology of the disease. In this paper Ji Y et al., provided an independent validation of the association of the rs6982567 near GDF6 with neovascular age related macular degeneration (nAMD) and polypoidal vasculopathy (PCV). Previous study by Zhang et al., (2012) has shown association of rs6982567 near GDF6 in AMD subjects. In this manuscript, Ji Y et al categorized subjects into nAMD and PCV. Since, AMD is a complex genetic disease; it is not surprising that this SNP was not associated with the disease.

1. Major Compulsory Revisions:
I do not see any major compulsory revisions

2. Minor Essential Revisions:
There are many spelling and spacing problems were present in entire manuscript and these needs to be corrected (line 65, 99, 109, 110, 119, 128 and 180)

3. Discretionary Revisions:
We cannot conclude lack of association of GDF6 by screening single polymorphism. If we want understand its role one should screen entire gene.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

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