Reviewer's report

Title: The Depression Network (DeNT) Study: methodology and sociodemographic characteristics of the first 470 affected sibling pairs from a large multi-site linkage genetic study.

Version: 1 Date: 26 October 2004

Reviewer: Peter R Joyce

Reviewer's report:

General

This paper reports on a large multi centre linkage study for the molecular genetics of depression. I would recommend that the paper is accepted, after minor essential revisions.

The paper describes a very large, and impressive sample of sib pairs with depression, from which one can expect some informative genetic findings.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Would the authors check and correct both Tukey post hoc tests on page 10 (if the authors consider they are correct, could they be presented in a clearer manner).

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

None