Reviewer’s report

Title: Association of FcgammaRIIa R131H polymorphism with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis severity and progression

Version: 2 Date: 26 July 2010

Reviewer: martin petrek

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions:

According to the rules for conducting genetic association studies the authors should acknowledge the need for replication of their data in other centres / populations. This is of particular importance given the relative small size of their group.

Statistical power of the study has to be presented.

Appropriate nomenclature for SNP designation (rs) should be used.

Minor essential revision:

As the control group is combined from the healthy blood donors and patients with other pathologies, details on ratio of those 2 subsets and also demographic data are to be added.

Discretionary revisions:

The success / failure rate of the used genotyping should be known to readers.

The authors mention the CR1 receptor and specifically the report on association between a polymorphism in the CR1 gene and IPF. However there have been also negative data published on this topic, so these may be quoted as well.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'