Reviewer's report

Title: ACE gene D/I polymorphism as a modulator of severity of cystic fibrosis

Version: 1 Date: 13 March 2012

Reviewer: Rossella Tomaiuolo

Reviewer's report:

The topic of the manuscript is relevant and actual, because the role of CF modifier genes is a matter of large interest. Furthermore, the results are reinforced by the well-characterized CF population.

The scientific quality of the manuscript is good and the presentation is clear. However the study could be reinforced with the data about the prevalence of D allele in the ACE gene polymorphism in general population from the same geographical area.

Minor revision
• Background, line 5 and result and discussion, line 45: to replace “expresses” with “codify”.
• Materials and methods: The Authors could give supplemental information on the prevalence of the ESR2 AluI gene polymorphism in healthy population from the same geographical area (Sicily, Italy).
• Table 2: Probably the content of Table 2 1 can become “Supplemental data” to the article.
• to replace “delF508” with “F508del”.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests
Dr Rossella Tomaiuolo, MD, PhD