Reviewer’s report

Title: Surfactant protein B polymorphisms are associated with severe respiratory syncytial virus associated diseases

Version: 1 Date: 19 January 2007

Reviewer: Emiko Noguchi

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General
The paper by Puthothu et al. describes an association study between surfactant protein (SP) B polymorphism and asthma/RSV infection in a German population. They found that the haplotypes of the SP-B polymorphisms were associated with severe RSV infection. This paper, in general, was well-written. I have following comments.

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

In Tables 2 and 3, numbers of subject with each genotype/haplotype should be provided with P values.

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

The authors did not find association between SP-B polymorphisms and asthma/RSV in their population. Power calculation can be performed to provide the power of this study and discuss these in the discussion section. Useful website would be http://pngu.mgh.harvard.edu/~purcell/gpc/#cc_ins.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.