Reviewer's report

Title: Genetic contribution of catechol-O-methyltransferase variants in treatment outcome of low back pain: a prospective genetic association study

Version: 2 Date: 20 February 2012

Reviewer: Frank Skorpen

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors have made essential corrections to their dataset, included the requested co-variates and highlighted potential limitations to their study, which will enable the reader to make a judgment on the conclusions in the manuscript. This seems to me to be an adequate response to the concerns raised in the reviews. As such, I find the manuscript now suitable for publication.

Minor essential revision
Page 17, sentence starting on line 7 from the top. It is not formally correct to say that heterozygotes produce an enzyme with intermediate activity - rather heterozygotes express intermediate COMT activity (the average activity produced by two different alleles)

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

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