Reviewer's report

Title: An intron polymorphism of fibronectin gene is associated with end-stage osteoarthritis in a Han Chinese population: two-stage case-control study

Version: 1 Date: 24 November 2013

Reviewer: Qing Jiang

Reviewer's report:

This study aims to evaluate the association between fibronectin (FN), integrin #V (ITGAV) and osteoarthritis (OA). The conclusion is that FN is associated with OA. The study is well conducted, but there are some changes which can improve this manuscript.

1. The authors selected tag SNPs of these two genes for genotyping. They should tell how much percent of all the SNPs in these two genes can be covered by the tag SNPs. (Minor Essential Revisions)

2. As the authors genotyped more than one SNP in each gene, they should evaluate whether the significance of this association study will exist after the correction for multiple comparisons. (Minor Essential Revisions)

3. The authors listed the advantage of two stage study design, but they didn’t show how it worked in this study. They should show the advantage of two stage study design in this study. (Minor Essential Revisions)

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.