Reviewer's report

Title: Lack of association of Matrix metalloproteinase-3 gene polymorphism with susceptibility to rheumatoid arthritis: A meta-analysis

Version: Date: 25 June 2014

Reviewer: yi liu

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

There are some problems need to be revised.

1. In Table 2. Results of quantitative synthesis involved the association between MMP-35A/6A polymorphisms and RA, the OR (95% CI), Ph and P value of Caucasians in 6A vs 5A group, 6A/6A vs 5A/5A and Dominant model needed to be calculated again.

Comparison model Caucasians

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OR (95% CI)</th>
<th>Ph</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6A vs 5A</td>
<td>1.23(0.89-1.68)</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A/6A vs 5A/5A</td>
<td>2.10(0.66-6.76)</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominant model</td>
<td>1.61(0.68-3.80)</td>
<td>0.008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table I listed above is the result that I calculated by using the original data. Although the ultimate results in Caucasians do not change, it is still need to be corrected.

2. In Figure 2. Funnel plots of the association between MMP-3-1171 5A/6A polymorphism and RA. A, Band C (alleles model: 6A vs 5A, 5A/6A vs 5A/5A, 6A/6A vs 5A/5A) D (Dominant model: 6A/6A + 5A/6A vs 5A/5A) E( Recessive model: 6A/6A versus 5A/5A + 5A/6A).

Actually D in figure 2 means the funnel plot of Recessive model and E in figure 2 is the funnel plot of the dominant model.

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