Reviewer’s report

Title: Combined examination of sequence and copy number variations in human deafness genes better explained the cause of genetic deafness

Version: 4  Date: 30 July 2014

Reviewer: Aiden Shearer

Reviewer’s report:

The authors satisfactorily completed all suggested edits and have greatly improved their manuscript.

Minor essential revision:

The authors indicate that this is the first study examining CNVs in hearing loss genes. However, two papers have recently been published on this same topic. Please change the manuscript to reflect that this is not the first CNV study in hearing loss and perhaps at least reference these manuscripts, or ideally add a sentence to the discussion. The references are:


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I am part of the non-profit Molecular Otolaryngology & Renal Research Laboratories at the University of Iowa that offers a similar genetic testing panel for deafness. Our laboratory is non-profit and I do not have a conflict of interest in evaluating this manuscript.