Reviewer's report

Title: Genetic Polymorphisms of Nerve Growth Factor Receptor (NGFR) and the Risk of Alzheimer's Disease

Version: 1 Date: 3 December 2011

Reviewer number: 1

Reviewer's report:

Major points
- The two populations are not age-matched. Controls are younger than patients, implying they could develop the disease in the future (i.e. when they will reach patients’ age). Age ranges should be the same for the two populations, and analysis should be re-run excluding youngest controls. In addition, were controls tested for cognitive impairment? Were MMSE scores available?
- Results: considering that ten patients only has EOAD, last paragraph could be deleted
- Discussion need a careful revision regarding two points: 1) first paragraph, last sentences: delete considerations about LD, that are basic concepts 2) third paragraph: the association observed could not necessarily be due to rs734194. It is possible that other rare polymorphisms not analyzed here are responsible for the association observed
- Figure 2 can be deleted.

Lastly, language needs a careful check (i.e. “strong LD” instead of “highly LD”; “under the assumption of an additive model” instead of “under the additive model”).

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

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.