Reviewer's report

Title: Candidate gene association study in pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia evaluated by Bayesian network based Bayesian multilevel analysis of relevance

Version: 2 Date: 29 June 2012

Reviewer: Anselm Mak

Reviewer's report:

Lautner-Csorba et al did a reasonably thorough study -- a gene association study in ALL in paediatric patients plus testing the Bayesian network based Bayesian analysis against the frequentist based logistic regression.

Minor Essential Revisions

Since the majority of readers are physicians and basic scientists, the way the statistical method described appears difficult to understand. The authors are strongly required to amend the method so that readers with averaged knowledge of Bayesian statistics can understand.

In the Conclusions part of the abstract, advantageous was wrongly spelt.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests