Reviewer's report

**Title:** Association between chymase gene polymorphisms and atrial fibrillation in Chinese Han population

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 26 Jul 2019

**Reviewer:** François Regoli

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The findings that there possible genetic mutations of the CMA gene which may play a role in atrial remodeling is an interesting observation. This may explain the very different therapeutic responses that AF patients present to different therapeutic strategies.

I would have only a couple of comments:

1) could the Others be a little more explicit on the therapeutic implications of their findings? Could the preventive use of anti-remodelling agent such as beta-blockers, statins, and ACE inhibitors to block the effects of this mutation?

2) patients in the Af Group at higher blood levels of TC and LDL. Does the observed genetic CMA polymorphism play any role on the metabolism of fatty acids and cholesterol and how can this effect atrial remodelling?

3) A methodological comment: On page 8, lines 148-159, the patients compare their findings on the Han population with other contributions from other studies. In my view this is not methodologically correct, the populations being likely very different not only in terms of race. Also, the statistical method used here to calculate significance is not detailed in the Statistics' section.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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