Reviewer’s report

Title: HBV/HIV co-infection and APOBEC3G polymorphisms in a population from Burkina Faso

Version: 1 Date: 04 May 2016

Reviewer: Eveli Kallas

Reviewer's report:

Current study evaluates the associations between three APOBEC3G polymorphisms and HIV-1/HBV co-infection. Authors show, that the rs3522853 minor allele T, rs3522853TT genotype, and rs6001417 GG genotype are protective against HIV-1/HBV co-infection. In addition, GGT haplotype is associated with protection against HIV-1/HBV.

Since the first submission, a lot of changes have been made and the manuscript has been improved. However, multiple issues still need to be addressed.

My comments are following:

1. The APOBEC3G polymorphisms of 100 study subjects with HIV-1 or HBV mono-infections have been added to the paper. However, baseline data of these patients is still missing from Table 1.

2. APOBEC3G polymorphisms of 100 study subjects with HIV-1 or HBV mono-infections should be added to Table 2, for more comprehensive analyses (from Tables 4 and 5). It is not clear, if the data has been corrected for multiple comparisons. This aspect should be clarified in the paper.

3. The number of HBV positive subjects with detectable viral load should be added to Table 1.

4. In Table 1, the percentages of male and female subjects still do not add up to 100% (20.02 and 79.80).
5. The study population should be described in more detail in the paper, as mentioned in the previous review.

6. A sentence stating that all study subjects were HCV negative, should be added to the paper.

7. The discussion part has not been revised, only new results and one limitation have been added. The Discussion still needs revising.

Minor remarks
1. There are still some lack of uniformity issues, that need to be addressed (p-Value in Table 2 and +/- or -/+ in Table 1).

2. In the Materials and methods section in paragraph 1 words "we" and "our" have been used. The rest of the section passive voice has been used.

3. In Table 1, there are empty rows or issues with line spacing.

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.

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