Reviewer’s report

Title: Polymorphisms in the Th17 cell-related RORC gene are associated with spontaneous clearance of HCV in Chinese women

Version: 0 Date: 19 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Daniel Simon

Reviewer's report:

In the manuscript by Xie et al SNPs with relevance for spontaneous clearance of HCV infection are sought. A total of 111 SNPs were analyzed in 137 Chinese women (64 chronic HCV carriers and 73 spontaneous resolvers of HCV infection). Two SNPs in the RORC gene were significantly associated with spontaneous HCV clearance. It is strongly suggested that the authors make every possible effort to increase the sample size or to analyze the RORC SNPs in a replication sample.

Furthermore, in the revised manuscript the authors should present p-value correction for multiple comparisons and need also present their calculation of statistical power.

Minor issue:

- Tables 2 and 3: in the estimation of OR for alleles and genotypes it is recommended to specify the reference category used in the analyzes.

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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