Reviewer's report

Title: Biotinidase deficiency: clinical and genetic studies of 38 Brazilian patients

Version: 2
Date: 16 June 2014

Reviewer: Olaf Bodamer

Reviewer's report:

The authors report genotype and clinical data from 38 randomly selected individuals with biotinidase deficiency. The patient cohort is very heterogeneous.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
1) Laboratories B,C,D have identical reference ranges for biotinidase activities? Are these reference ranges adjusted for age?
2) What is the basis for the reference ranges for profound biotinidase deficiency (BTD) versus partial BTD versus heterozygosity?
3) What is the frequency of the novel variants in the various databases (e.g. dSNP and others)?

Minor Essential Revisions:
1) How many centers were contacted? What was the response rate?
2) The number of tables can be reduced. For example tables 4 and 5 can be condensed into a single table.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests