Reviewer’s report

Title: Association of IL10 and TGFB Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms with Intervertebral Disc Degeneration in Iranian Population: A case control study

Version: 0 Date: 15 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Bianca Bianco

Reviewer's report:
Overall it is an interesting study, but I have the following concerns and comments:

1. In the abstract section
The abstract is confusing and needs to be rewritten. The objective of the study needs to be clear. In addition, inform the rs of the SNPs studied.

2. Patients and Methods
The sample size was calculated? And Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium? Please, this information must be added to the text. Besides, although the methodology of polymorphisms genotyping has already been described it is essential to describe it briefly.
There is no approval by ethics committee.

3. Results
The tables are presented as charts.
The patients age range from 19 to 62 year old. Is this adequate? Would not disc degeneration be expected as an aging process?

4. Discussion
The criticisms with the current manuscript are the small sample. The criteria for performing genetic studies include homogeneous population, robust methodology and sample size with statistical power. Besides, the strengths and weaknesses of the study must be discussed.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
No

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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