Reviewer's report

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

Version: 1 Date: 16 Feb 2018

Reviewer: Bianca Bianco

Reviewer's report:
Although the authors have adequately answered most of the reviewers' questions, I still have the following concerns and comments:

1. The control group should be better described. The selection criteria to enroll for the control group are not strong enough to identify the people without disc degeneration. Asymptomatic people may have disc degeneration. Ideally, the individuals selected for the control group should have undergone MRI to exclude the disease. It is an important methodological issue which needs to be addressed. Therefore, there are doubts about the validity of the results. In addition, mean age and gender in control group need to be showed.

2. Table 1 should compare some variables between groups, such as age and proportion of men and women. And if there is difference in these variables between the groups, the statistical analysis should be adjusted accordingly.

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.
No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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No
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?

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I recommend additional statistical review

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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