Reviewer’s report

Title: Glutathione S-transferase pi 1 variant and squamous cell carcinoma susceptibility: A meta-analysis of 52 case-control studies

Version: 0 Date: 22 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Angela Alleyne

Reviewer’s report:

The authors provide a generally well written meta-analysis on the relationship of rs1695 in GSTP1 and various Squamous cell carcinomas. The theoretical and methodological approaches are acceptable and appropriate. However, there is an analytical error, some minor grammatical errors and methodological areas that are of concern. These are outlined below.

1. The title is misleading since it is a meta-analysis of 52 case control studies, and this should be included in the title of the study.

2. The introduction lacks any reference to metanalyses for GSTP1. Instead the authors show the conflicting data in GWAS studies on the rs1695 polymorphism. While this is acceptable, they should indicate the use of metanalyses in prior studies on GSTP1 because this is a metanalysis and not an experimental case control GWAS study. This seems to have been done on the discussion (page 6, second paragraph).

Therefore, I believe some mention of metanalysis should be correctly placed in the introduction so that one is aware of type of study under investigation.

3. Throughout the paper the authors refer to "literatures", this should be corrected to "literature searches".

4. In the results section, if 597 literature searches were used as stated in the text, then a total of 215 not 115 full text articles is what was correctly assessed for eligibility and not 115 as stated. However, in figure 1 the authors show a total of 497 texts were searched not 597, 168 duplicates removed and a further 214 excluded which correctly means 115 were assessed. This is very important and needs to be corrected in the text.

5. In the results section, the authors also provide no explanation of removal of 68 of these articles from the 115 selected based on their exclusion criteria as stated in the methods section. This needs some clarification.

6. Page 8 replace "evidences" with "evidence" and rephrase the sentence.

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?**
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Yes

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I am able to assess the statistics

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