Reviewer’s report

Title: ATM rs189037 (G>A) polymorphism increased the risk of cancer: an updated meta-analysis

Version: 0 Date: 23 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Yuanqing Ye

Reviewer's report:

The authors performed a meta-analysis to examine the association of ATM rs189037 polymorphism with the risk of cancer. They identified 15 studies including 8,660 patients with cancer and 9,259 controls. Here are the comments.

1. In abstract and result section, the author reported that C allele increased the risk of cancer. However, the alleles for this SNP are G and A as listed in the title and Table 2. It's not clear where allele C came from.

2. It raises question to combine all the ethnicity together since there are marked differences in allele frequencies for Asian and Caucasian. A allele frequency in Caucasian study (Damioloa 2913) is > 56% while A allele frequencies in other Asian studies are < 50%. Therefore, a more focused study on Asian is preferable.

3. In statistical analysis section, It's confusing that A and a were used to denote the alleles but the alleles for rs189037 are A and G. It is not clear which models OR1, OR2, and OR3 refer to for allele contrast, homozygous codominant, heterozygous codominant. It is also not clear which allele the dominant model refers to.

4. Please correct the genotype in figure 1. The alleles for rs189037 are G and A.

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.

Yes

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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