Reviewer’s report

Title: Vitamin D receptor Apal polymorphism associated with progression of liver disease in Vietnamese patients chronically infected with Hepatitis B virus

Version: 4 Date: 18 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Sungho Won

Reviewer's report:

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My comments are about the population stratification. Authors insist that all subjects are from the same ethnicity and no population stratification adjustment is necessary. However I cannot agree on this response. For instance, population stratification is observed even if there is a single ethnicity.

Even for the same ethnicity, the minor allele frequencies can differ and thus its adjustment is almost always very important.

Authors can consider the EIGENSTRAT approach (https://www.nature.com/articles/ng1847). Alternatively authors can use the family-based samples (https://www.nature.com/articles/5200625.pdf?origin=ppub)

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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No

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