Reviewer's report

Title: Osteopontin promoter polymorphisms and risk of urolithiasis: a candidate gene association and meta-analysis study

Version: 1 Date: 24 Mar 2020

Reviewer: Dian Nurputra

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Review Manuscript No MGTC-D-20-0002BR1
Authors wrote the manuscript entitled Osteopontin promoter polymorphism and risk of urolithiasis: a candidate gene association and meta-analysis study. The study about Association of osteopontin promoter gene polymorphism and risk of urolithiasis were reported in many previous studies, it is not novel. However, this study played role in contribute more to the world-data, especially in the population of Pakistan. The study was well arranged and well structured. The data looks convincing. The analyses were comprehensive and deep. It is admirable that The Authors put an emphasize in the possibility of publication bias. The addition of meta-analysis data could be used also to support the interpretation of the study. However, there are several inquiries need to be addressed. They are summarized as follows:

Methodology and Flow:
1. Could you explain to us, what do you mean by "overlaps" in the identification phase of the meta-analyses
2. Please provide a brief explanation about the adherence of PRISMA statement in conducting your meta-analysis study.

Result & Discussion
1. The basic characteristics of the subjects could be explained more by adding several variables or risk factors aside the genetics. The Authors mentioned about parental consanguinity factors in the table, however there was no explanation or discussion regarding the finding. Please explain.
2. Many polymorphism in SPP1 gene have been reported. Do the Authors ever consider about the possibility of having two polymorphisms of SPP1 gene in one individual. Among all subjects participated in the study, is there any individual found to harbor two polymorphisms?

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

**Declaration of competing interests**

Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

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