Reviewer's report

Title: High frequency of the TARDBP p.M337V mutation among south-eastern Chinese patients with familial amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

Version: 0 Date: 19 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Francisco Gondim

Reviewer's report:

Xu et al. reported a high frequency of TARDBP mutations in familial ALS patients from Southeast Asia. Those patients had a trend for bulbar and upper limb involvement and a benign course, with prolonged survival.

Introduction:

1. Description of ALS should be more generally stated, and not confuse the general description with findings from TARDBP mutations (1st paragraph).
2. The last paragraph can be shortened since it is a summary of the abstract.

Methods:

1. It would be important to provide more details about the recruitment and selection of the patients, so the reader can understand the epidemiological characteristics of the sample analyzed.

Results and Discussion:

- Typos should be corrected throughout
- It would be interesting to separate in the discussion the description of a comparison of the clinical and genetic variability of TARDBP mutations in Western and Asian patients.

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

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I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Needs some language corrections before being published

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