Reviewer’s report

Title: C-reactive protein genetic variant is associated with diabetic retinopathy in Chinese patients with type 2 diabetes

Version: 2 Date: 2 February 2015

Reviewer: Parimala Narne

Reviewer’s report:

The authors need to make these compulsory revisions.

1. The location of the tagging SNPs should be given with reference to CRP ‘gene’.

2. With reference to the response to the second comment, the authors mentioned that endothelial dysfunction and atherogenesis play an important role in the pathogenesis of DR. However, no suitable references have been provided.

3. ‘DR grade was based on the level of the more severe eye’. The sentence is ambiguous and has to be removed. In turn, the list of ocular changes associated with DR and its severity have to be mentioned.

4. Details concerning the number of patients in the respective DR categories need to be mentioned in the materials and methods section.

5. Line 157: ‘Rs’?

6. The manuscript needs to be thoroughly checked for scientific notations, syntax and spelling errors.

7. Table 1: Remove ‘samples’ and place the number of patients enclosed in brackets (as n=593) under the respective categories. Remove ‘subjects with’. The demographic and anthropometric traits should be grouped under ‘Characteristic’.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'