Reviewer’s report

Title: High-sensitive C-reactive protein and risk of incident type 2 diabetes: a case-control study nested within the Singapore Chinese Health Study

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Reviewer: Sampathkumar Rangasamy

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript titled "High-sensitive C-reactive protein and risk of incident type 2 diabetes: a case-control study nested within the Singapore Chinese Health Study" prospectively examined the relation between plasma levels of CRP and risk of type 2 diabetes (T2D) among a Chinese population. Type 2 diabetes have a strong inflammatory etiology, but exclusive functional inflammatory biomarker that predicts diabetes is not yet available. CRP is an extensively studied paradoxical biomarker for disease prediction ranging from diabetes to atherosclerosis. Existing literature provides multiple but often contradictory evidence for CRP as a risk factor to develop type 2 diabetes. Despite the many numbers of studies, the associations between type 2 diabetes and CRP levels are inconclusive, and hence it is an important area that is needed to be explored. The strength of the present study is it population cohort from a well-defined demography, and nested case control is an advantage for this study.

Suggestions:

1. It would be interesting to know the influence of an additional inflammatory marker such as IL-6 on the etiology of T2D, and its correlation with CRP in the study subjects.

2. Analysis of previous drug / status infection in cases and controls will be interesting.

3. Why authors have not included the analysis of blood pressure in this study.

4. Flow diagram for the methodology will tremendously help the readers.

5. Why the HbA1C levels in control has been chosen with a cutoff ≤6.0. Does this include the possibility of IGT in control population?

6. Authors can shorten the length of the discussion and may improve redundancy.

7. Having the description of quartile values in all the table will help readers.

8. It will be interesting to know the duration of time between collection of blood for CRP measurement (Follow-up 1) and diagnosis of diabetes.
9. Can HOMA-IR index can be included in the analysis to assess the role of IR?

**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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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