Reviewer’s report

Title: Multi-level transcriptome sequencing identifies COL1A1 as a candidate marker in human heart failure progression

Version: 1 Date: 08 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Mark Ziemann

Reviewer's report:

Authors have done a great job on the revisions. Most of my points have been satisfactorily addressed however I have one remaining concern.(8) Regarding using all protein coding genes as the background for ORA (P11 Line 7 of the rebuttal), this is likely to result in many false positives. Indeed in the Webgestalt 2019 article, the authors state "For ORA analysis, it is important to include only quantifiable sites as the background data set." Meaning that the background set should be a list of genes that were detected in the assay. This detail should be added to the method section as well.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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