Reviewer’s report

Title: Clinical and genetic characterization of hereditary breast cancer in a Chinese population

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Reviewer: Thomas Mikeska

Reviewer's report:

1) Results, Characteristics of the study population, First sentence: "We recruited for this trial 120 patient diagnosed with breast cancer and 120 controls who had first-degree relatives affected by breast cancer.". Please provide a rationale why this particular control group has been selected for the study. Currently, it appears to me that this control group might not be appropriate. The study results could be skewed due to the possibility that there is an increased likelihood that some individuals of the control group may harbour a mutation due to a family history of breast cancer.

2) The results in regards to the germline variant MUTYH c.892-2A>G is of interest. However, this result is mainly discussed in the context of what is already known from the scientific literature. A follow-up/additional studies on this variant would strengthen the scientific contribution of this paper.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of limited interest

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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