Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of the impact of single-nucleotide polymorphisms on treatment response, survival and toxicity with cytarabine and anthracyclines in patients with acute myeloid leukaemia: A systematic review protocol

Version: 0 Date: 26 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Chaturaka Rodrigo

Reviewer's report:

I like the concept of this review but there are some critical issues that need to be addressed prior to being considered for publication

Major revisions

Rather than saying "standard chemotherapy" you should refine the topic to the indicate the drugs you considered. In the abstract please mention the reason for excluding FAB type 3

P6, L20, What is an appreciable frequency ? This obviously depends on the NGS platform used. However you should have some idea about how low of a frequency you can reliably accept
Please do not use past tense in methods section

It seems that you have already selected the genes from a database; you need to explain what this database is and how is it curated. Who enters data in to it? Is it industry sponsored ? Most people will not have time to follow the link and find out for themselves. How can you be sure that all relevant genes are included?

It is useful to indicate at least what subgroups you have in mind at this stage

Minor revisions

The quality if written English needs to improve. I have mentioned a few below but I stopped picking them up after the introduction as there are so many. Please get this proofread and edited by a native English speaker. I suggest to write in short sentences rather than in convoluted long sentences. For example the wording in page 3 L12-14 is grammatically incorrect and can be split in to 2-3 short sentences.

P4L1: "that carries the Ara-C transport " ; this is unclear

P4L3: "metabolize Ara-C in cytarabine monophosphate " Ara-C to cytarabine monophosphate ?
"anthracyclines is carried out in several tissues, also initiating in the cellular membrane, being able to be realized by several types..." the wording here is unclear

May be it is more useful to highlight the metabolism of these drugs in diagram rather than describing in text

P4L18: "...drugs present SNPs" ; better to say "...drugs have SNPs". This is the first place you use the abbreviation SNPs and you need to expand it here

P5, L15-20; Please make this paragraph succinct. Also in the paragraph before, there is no need to explain what level of evidence is

P12L21-24; There is no need to explain what GRADE is

P13 L1-3; It is unclear what the authors mean here

P13 L5-6: "Studies with insufficient data for the meta-analysis will be maintained in the systematic review" ; what does this mean?

P14 L9 : What is LMA? is it AML?

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

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited
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No