Reviewer's report

Title: High prevalence of protein tyrosine phosphatase non-receptor N22 gene functional variant R620W in systemic lupus erythematosus patients from Kuwait: implications for disease susceptibility

Version: 2 Date: 27 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Hans Nossent

Reviewer's report:
The revised paper has improved clarity, but still needs additional work.

1. There is a lot of repetitive text in in several paragraphs incl abstract and statistical methods, possibly as a result of repeated copy/paste.
2. The significant overlap between introduction and discussion is still there.
3. I remain unconvinced by the way the results are presented and wonder if review by a biostatistician could help the authors to provide their results in a clearer fashion - eg by presenting detailed Hardy Weinberg dysequilibrium data in addition to data from a dedicated SNP analysis software (eg. SNPHAP, Haplovieview SNPstats) that will also allow association with clinical data.
4. Table requires clarification/defining footnotes for: ANA (assay and cutoff), immunological abnormalities and hypertension.
5. Table 3/4 can easily be incorporated in Table 2 as the authors seem reluctant to just mention these results in text.
6. The odd finding that written informed consent was not possible due to hospital managers, I will leave it to the editorial team to deal with.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
No
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

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
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