

## **Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Plasma folate levels are associated with the lipoprotein profile: A retrospective database analysis

**Version: 2 Date:** 9 April 2010

**Reviewer:** Tiziana Bacchetti

### **Reviewer's report:**

In a retrospective single center approach, the authors investigate the relationship between vitamin B12, folate and plasma lipid levels.

The main limitation of the paper is, as reported also by authors in the discussion, that the results obtained cannot be controlled for any influence of drugs, diseases or nutritional factors.

#### Major revisions

- Body mass index (BMI) of subjects should be included in the study. The relationship between BMI e vitamin B12, folate and plasma lipid levels, should be also studied and discussed.
- The physiological relevance of the differences in the levels of HDL and LDL observed in subjects with high or low levels of folate , should be better described in the discussion.

#### Minor revisions

- In table 3 subjects were divided based on levels of vitamins in different groups. The number of subjects in each group should be inserted.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

#### **Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'