|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Score** |
| 1. Representativeness of cases
 |  |
| Diagnosed criteria to acknowledged criteria | 2 |
| Mentioned the diagnosed criteria but not specifically described | 1 |
| Not described | 0 |
| 1. Source of controls
 |  |
| Population or community based | 3 |
| Hospital-based HCV-free controls | 2 |
| Healthy volunteers without total description | 1 |
| HCV-free controls with related diseases | 0.5 |
| Not described | 0 |
| 1. Sample size
 |  |
| >400 | 2 |
| 200-400 | 1 |
| <200 | 0 |
| 1. Quality control of genotyping methods
 |  |
| Repetition of partial/total tested samples with a different method | 2 |
| Repetition of partial/total tested samples with the same method | 1 |
| Not described | 0 |
| 5.Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) |  |
| Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium in control subjects | 1 |
| Hardy-Weinberg disequilibrium in control subjects | 0 |

**Supplementary Table S4. Scale for Quality Assessment for Identified Studies on TGF-ß1 gene polymorphisms and chronic HCV infection.**