Author's response to reviews

Title: Association of SARS susceptibility with single nucleic acid polymorphisms of OAS1 and MxA genes: A Case-Control Study

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

We are sorry for the delayed reply because we have been doing analyses of interaction between the mutations in OAS1 and MxA according to the reviewer's suggestion. The following are our responses to reviewer's comments point-by-point.

Responses to Dr. Capobianchi's comments:

1. As mentioned above, we have tried several approaches to the interaction analyses. It is a pity that the sample size of the study is not sufficient to do so. We have discussed the limitation in the revised MS (P13 line 11).
2. Table 3 has been divided into two tables (Tables 3 and Table 4) in the revised MS to make it easy to understand.
3. That's right. This is not a hypothesis. We have modified the statement in the revised MS (P12 line 16) in response to the reviewer's comment.
4. We moved the explanation for choosing OAS and MxA SNPs as markers from the discussion to the background. (1). In P4 line 17, we added the sentence "The nationality of the most cases is Han population". (2) In P5 line 4, we emphasized that the roles of the IFN system against SARS-CoV infection are important. (3). In P5 line 20, we added the G and T allele frequency from different race of people.
5. Minor Essential Revisions.
   - The symbol of centigrade (°C) had been added in the revised MS.
   - In Table 3, "Goggle" had been changed to "Goggles".

Responses to Dr. Weber's comments:

1. This comment is the same as comments 4 suggested by Dr. Capobianchi. So we give the same answer as response 4 mentioned above.
   - P3 line 10. "A collective of" had been added before the words "66 SARS cases".
   - P4 line 6. ORs and CI had been added to the abstract.
   - "" had been used instead of "X" for fold.
   - The symbol of centigrade (°C) had been added in the revised MS.
   - Changes had been made according to the comments in the revised MS. P7 first line. "body" P8. line 15: "two". P10 line 10: "SNPs of the OAS and MxA genes". P11 line 3. "strain".
   - P11 line 18: The upper case "T" had been changed and line 11: "the" had been added before "G allele".