Author’s response to reviews

Title: ALDH1A2 (RALDH2) genetic variation in human congenital heart disease

Authors:

- Marilene Pavan (mari.pavan@gmail.com)
- Vivane F Ruiz (viviruiz@pop.com.br)
- Fábio A Silva (xavier.neto@incor.usp.br)
- Tiago JP Sobreira (tiagosobreira@yahoo.com.br)
- Roberta M Cravo (robertacravo@gmail.com)
- Michelle Vasconcelos (michellevasconcelos@gmail.com)
- Sonia MF Mesquita (sonia.mesquita@incor.usp.br)
- Jose E Krieger (krieger@incor.usp.br)
- Antonio AB Lopes (aablopes@usp.br)
- Paulo S Oliveira (paulo.oliveira@incor.usp.br)
- Alexandre C Pereira (alexandre.pereira@incor.usp.br)
- Jose Xavier-Neto (xavier.neto@incor.usp.br)
- Livia P Marques (limarques05@gmail.com)

Version: 3 Date: 15 September 2009

Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dr. Melissa Norton  
Editor-in-Chief,  
BMC Medical Genetics  

Dear Dr. Norton,  

Please find attached a revised copy of the manuscript entitled “ALDH1a2 (RALDH2) genetic variation in human congenital heart disease” that we would like to re-submit for publication as an original article in BMC Medical Genetics.  

In the revised version of the manuscript we have made all minor essential revisions suggested by reviewer#1. To facilitate the review process we have described all modifications in a point-by-point letter.  

We now hope that our manuscript has reached the high standards of BMC Medical Genetics and that this information will be interesting to BMC Medical Genetics readers.  

Thank you very much in advance for your kind attention,  

Best regards,  

José Xavier-Neto  
Laboratório de Genética e Cardiologia Molecular  
Instituto do Coração (InCor) HC-FMUSP  
São Paulo-SP 05403-900  
Brazil  
Phone +55-11 3069 5543  
Fax +55-11 3069 5022  
Xavier.Neto@incor.usp.br
Reviewer 1:

Minor essential revisions:

Abstract sentence “TOF patients displayed other ALDH1A2 variants that map to exonic sequences such as the silent Ala151Ala polymorphism, previously associated to spina bifida. We determined that exon 4 rs16939660 does not impact splicing.” Was changed to “We determined that the SNP rs16939660, previously associated with spina bifida and observed in patients with TOF, does not affect splicing.”

We have changed in the abstract section the sentence “In summary, our screen indicates that ALDH1A2 genetic variation is present in TOF patients, suggesting a possible causal role for this gene in rare cases of human CHD, but do not support the hypothesis that variation at the ALDH1A2 locus is a significant modifier of the risk for CHD in humans.” To, “In summary, our screen indicates that ALDH1A2 genetic variation is present in TOF patients, suggesting a possible causal role for this gene in rare cases of human CHD, but does not support the hypothesis that variation at the ALDH1A2 locus is a significant modifier of the risk for CHD in humans.

In the results section for tetralogy of Fallot mutations we have changed the sentence “A “T” to “C” transition (p.Ile157Thr) changed a non-polar isoleucine residue to a polar threonine and a “G” to “T” transversion changed a non-polar alanine to a polar serine (p.Ala151Ser) (Figures 1A and 1B).” to “A c.T470C transition was identified which changes a non-polar isoleucine residue to a polar threonine (p.Ile157Thr) and a c.G451T transversion …..”