Author's response to reviews

Title: Allelic variants of IL1R1 gene associate with severe hand osteoarthritis

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear BMC Series Editorial Production Team,

We are delighted to hear that our manuscript “Allelic variants of IL1R1 gene associate with severe hand osteoarthritis” (MS: 1200836953248454) is in principle accepted for publication in BMC Medical Genetics journal. We wish to thank the The BMC Series Editorial Production Team for the comments concerning our manuscript. We have improved the manuscript according to the comments. Please find below a point-by-point description of the changes made.

Sincerely,
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**Major revisions**

*Comment. Abstract: this abstract does not have the correct structure. Please reformat it to use these headings: Background, Methods, Results, Conclusions. Please remember to also update the abstract details on the submission page.*
Response: These changes have been made to the manuscript and on the submission page.

**Minor revisions**

*Comment. Key words: please remove these*
Response. Key words are now removed from the manuscript.

*Comment. References: please provide the full citation details for reference 46. You can view the BMC reference guide at the following link http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcgenet/ifora/#references.*
Response. Reference 45 seemed to lack information on the volume and page numbers. This error has been corrected.

*Comment. Please be consistent when citing figures, use either figure or fig. in both the main text and the figure legends section*
Response. Figure legends are now marked as Fig 1, Fig 2 and Fig 3 as they appear in the text.

*Comment. Tables: the table title should appear above the table and should be only one sentence long. Please place any other text as a legend (or key), which should appear below the table*
Response. For Table 3, the title is now one sentence long and other text has been placed below the table.
Other changes
1. In page 12, row 3: we have changed “OR 12 vs. 22” as “OR CT vs. TT” to match with the style in the rest of the manuscript.
2. In page 10, row 7: “n=107” has been changed to “n=134” to include the cases in both OA groups and to match with the abstract.
3. Page 5, last paragraph modified.
4. Spelling checked.
6. Page 5, last paragraph: “Copies of original x-rays are available for re-evaluations” removed as unnecessary.
7. Entire document: “chi^2” and “chi-square” changed as “χ^2”; “r^2” changed as “r^2”.
