Author’s response to reviews

Title: In vitro characterization of novel and functional regulatory SNPs in the promoter region of IL2 and IL2R alpha in a Gabonese population

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Distinguished Editor and Reviewer

Please find our revised version of the Manuscript uploaded along with response to reviewer comments been interleaved. All new changes made are highlighted green. Also the MS was corrected by scientific copyeditor and all changes were highlighted in Red accordingly

MS: 7928867437718984
Reviewer's report
Title: In vitro characterization of novel and functional regulatory SNPs in the promoter region of IL2 and IL2R alpha in a Gabonese population

Version: 4 Date: 29 October 2012 Reviewer: Katie A Smith

Reviewer's report:
The authors have made appropriate changes and modifications to the manuscript, improving it measurably and making it acceptable for publication within BMC Medical Genetics.

I would just ask for a couple of minor revisions to be made: In background, paragraph 2 line 86-87; please could you re-word this sentence to clarify that SNPs within IL2R alpha are associated with disease, not infection, as the publications cited associate IL2RA SNPs with Graves' disease, or Type 1 diabetes.

Thanks. We restructured the sentence as suggested
Additionally studies have shown that SNPs within IL2R alpha are associated with both Grave’s disease and Type1 diabetes

In the statistical analysis section, could you please clarify how data were normalized? Thanks. We have added the input as

The mean ratio (Luciferase/Renilla) across all measurements was considered for purposes of calculating relative luciferase activity. Also in methodology it stands as Relative luciferase activity was calculated as luciferase firefly/luciferase Renilla multiplied by 1000.

Thank you for the explanation provided in your rebuttal but please could you amend the sentence in the Discussion paragraph 2 line 251-253 containing the phrase "but this may be extraneous in the in situ state" for other readers?

Thanks. In order not to make it clear for other readers, we have deleted the sentence ‘but this may be extraneous in the in situ state’

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Considered carefully and corrected by scientific copyeditor and all changes were highlighted in Red accordingly

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.