Author's response to reviews

Title: Genetic variations in APPL2 are associated with overweight and obesity in a Chinese population with normal glucose tolerance

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor and Reviewers,

Firstly thank you very much for the kind positive comments about this work and for your careful reading and critiques, which extremely helpful in our revising and improving this manuscript. These critiques are addressed as follows and as highlighted in the manuscript. We also re-calculated the data and modified the manuscript according to your suggestion, which were also highlighted.

Thank you again for your efforts in helping improve this manuscript.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

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Reviewers' comments:

Reviewer: Francis Vasseur
Reviewer's report:
The manuscript MS: 1814028202630951
"Genetic variations in APPL2 are associated with overweight and obesity in a Chinese population with normal glucose tolerance" by Shan Jiang, Qichen Fang, Weihui Yu, Rong Zhang, Cheng Hu, Kun Dong, Yuqian Bao, Chen Wang, Kunsan Xiang and Weiping Jia, has been greatly amended according to my comments and suggestions. However a single major point remain to be modified before publication.

Regarding my previous #f where I precised that with median values of WHR of 0.849 for TT and 0.849 for CT it is not acceptable to conclude to an additive model as this would imply a significant difference between 0.849 and 0.849, I see that this was not taken into account by the authors as they wrote on line 153 "...under an additive model...". Either the authors clearly demonstrate a significant difference between the WHR values of TT and TC genotypes and may thus argue for an additive model, or they conclude to a recessive model as is supported by their data and was requested in my previous report. This notion of a recessive model rather than an additive one was already requested in the initial report and following the third version of the manuscript has not yet been taken into account.

Response: Thank you very much for your kind comments. We modified this problem in the revised manuscript. We used "a recessive model" instead of "an additive model" in the revised table 4, table S1 and table S4 (see additional file 2 and 5). In the revised results section, we wrote, "rs2272495 was associated with BMI (p=0.015), waist circumference (p=0.006), hip circumference (p=0.025) as well as WHR (p=0.047) under a recessive model (Table 4)."
Minor remark: although the research and publication of scientific articles in the field of genetics is an exciting job that may be addictive, at line 153 of the manuscript the authors should have used "additive" instead of "addictive". Although this notion of additive model should be deleted regarding to my previous remark the authors should take care that another "addictive" is not hidden in the manuscript.
Response: Thank you very much and I am so sorry for this typo.