Author’s response to reviews

Title: Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D3 levels and Vitamin D Receptor variants in melanoma patients from the Mediterranean area of Barcelona

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Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the manuscript entitled “Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D3 levels and Vitamin D Receptor variants in melanoma patients from the Mediterranean area of Barcelona” for consideration and possible publication in the “BMC Medical Genetics” journal as an original article.

In the present study, Vitamin D levels and the relationship between VDR variants and nevus, the strongest phenotypic risk factor for melanoma, were evaluated, respectively, in two cohorts of melanoma patients from the Mediterranean area of Barcelona.

This study showed that even in Barcelona, a sunny Mediterranean area, Vitamin D levels were sub-optimal in the majority of melanoma patients at diagnosis. The association between VDR and nevus number suggests an involvement of VDR, in turn, of Vitamin D, in melanoma susceptibility.

By performing two different analysis (Vitamin D levels and VDR genetic variants) in two melanoma cohorts, we have provided for the first time a portrait of Vitamin D and its possible involvement in melanoma aetiology in a Spanish population localized in Barcelona, a Mediterranean area characterized by a sunny climate.
We look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

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