Author's response to reviews

Title: Full-length analysis of single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in human CYP3A4 and CYP3A5 genes: potential implications for the metabolism of HIV drugs

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Author's response to reviews:

COVER LETTER FOR SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPT AFTER REVIEWER’S REPORT

I am enclosing herewith a manuscript entitled “Analysis of single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in human CYP3A4 and CYP3A5 genes: potential implications for the metabolism of HIV drugs” for publication in BMC (technical advance) for possible evaluation.

My comments after revisions:

1) Reviewer Margalida Rotger: this is not new since in the literature other authors have already designed primer for PCR and sequencing CYP3A4 and 3A5. The all manuscript should be rewritten removing the terms “novel” or “new”.

In other studies CYP3A4 and CYP3A5 genes have been only partially sequenced. In addition, robust and inexpensive PCR methods for detecting both known and unknown CYP3A genetic polymorphisms in a single system are not available. However we removed the terms “novel” or “new” as suggested.

2) Reviewer Margalida Rotger: They also studied the effect of the SNPs on LPV response; however the sample size is too small to have conclusive results.

Low number of HIV infected patients may be eligible for LPV/r monotherapy without other antiretroviral drug classes (other PI and/or NRTI/NNRTI).

3) Reviewer Margalida Rotger: The title and methods are misleading; it is not a full-length analysis since the authors did not sequence the whole CYP3A4 and 3A5 genes. They sequenced the exons and the intron boundaries. Please change it.
Full-length term was removed from the title.

4) Reviewer Margalida Rotger: Needs some language corrections before being published

The paper was edited by a native-English speaker.

5) Reviewer Amegnona Agbonon: the conclusion of the Abstract: authors must change «sequencingi» by «sequencing».

Done.

6) Reviewer Amegnona Agbonon: Authors should harmonize LPV/r monotherapy in all the text, because in the discussion at page 8 line 10 it is written LPV/RTV monotherapy.

Done.

7) Editorial requirement: The ethics committee that approved the study was included as requested.

• All authors of this research paper have directly participated in the planning, execution, or analysis of this study;
• All authors of this paper have read and approved the final version submitted;
• The contents of this manuscript have not been copyrighted or published previously;
• The contents of this manuscript are not now under consideration for publication elsewhere;
• The contents of this manuscript will not be copyrighted, submitted, or published elsewhere, while acceptance by the Journal is under consideration.

Submitted manuscript is a Research Article.

This research project was conducted from __2012/01/01____ and it is on going.

My Research Project is fully sponsored by Italian Ministry of Health with grant number 262/RF-2009- 1547039 and I’m principal Investigator of the project.

Date: 05/23/2014
Roberta D’Arrigo, corresponding author