Author’s response to reviews

Title: Molecular epidemiology of DFNB1 deafness in France

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Dear Editor,

You will find enclosed the revised manuscript. Revisions have been made with the requested formatting changes. Please find also below our comments to the discretionary revisions; if necessary, the text has been updated where indicated. We hope to have provided the requested information and that the revised manuscript will be suitable for publication.

Sincerely yours,

Anne-Francoise Roux

Discretionary revisions

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1-
We have performed calculation of the power of the test which is 1-\(b:0.38\). We are aware that the test is not very powerful, but our statistical data did not allow to show a significative difference between the patient and the general population. Therefore, the results were presented according to our data.
We comment the fact that the M34T variant is not ruled out as a contributor towards mild or moderate deafness page 12, paragraph 2 and page 13, paragraph 3.

2-
We believed that it was not a problem to include the patient originating from Guadeloupe in our study because in the epidemiology study, although the Guthrie cards were obtained from newborns from Languedoc-Roussillon, we have not excluded those who were originating from other countries.

3-
We performed a one sample proportion test with continuity correction. We tested the observed proportion 1/159 against the expected proportion.
4- We suspected from family data, but could not ascertain, the mitochondrial mode of inheritance this is why we had included a "?". To avoid any confusion we have replaced "mitochondrial ?" by "unknown" in table 2.

5- When observed or expected values are below 5, we performed a Fisher exact test. This point has been clarified in the paragraph "statistical analysis"(page 7, paragraph 1).