Author's response to reviews

Title: Molecular Analysis Using DHPLC of Cystic Fibrosis: Increase of the Mutation Detection Rate Among the affected Population in Central Italy.

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Dear Prof Matthew Hodgkinson,

The manuscript “Molecular Analysis Using DHPLC of Cystic Fibrosis: Increase of the Mutation Detection Rate Among the affected Population in Central Italy” has been edited regarding the language style. Furthermore, according to your requests, contents have been modified as follow:

- The reference for “The clear Northwest to Southeast gradient of CF frequency across Europe” is Estivill et al, Hum Mutat 1997, as now indicated;
- As now explained, controls were randomly chosen and CFTR gene was sequenced to exclude presence of mutations.
- We considered ten DNAs carrying rare mutations from the geographic area of Central Italy accordingly to the Italian Database for CFTR mutations (http://spazioweb.inwind.it/laboratoriCF/)
- Discussion and Conclusions were split in two paragraphs;
- Competing interests were modified as suggested;
- Author’s contributions is now a continuous paragraph;
- References were modified as suggested;
- Table 1 doesn’t contain anymore C in the data within the table;
- We made the discretionary revisions suggested by Arosio.

I do hope that this revised version meets your approval for publication in BMC Medical Genetics as a Technical Advance Article.

Yours sincerely

Maria Rosaria D’Apice