Author’s response to reviews

Title: Contribution of germline BRCA1 and BRCA2 sequence alterations to breast cancer in Northern India.

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Version: 6 Date: 22 August 2006

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

we have modified the manuscript as per suggestion. we want to add the name of Mishi Kaushal at the third position in author's list because she has done the HDA in the new controls added in the present study. The revised manuscript is attached along with the reply of reviewer's comments.

Title:
3 29 May 2006 Version: Date:
Fernando Schmitt Reviewer:
Reviewer's report:
Inherited predisposition to breast and ovarian cancer due to mutations in the BRCA genes has been thoroughly described in the medical literature over the last years, being population based studies of major importance in determining the types of screening to be conducted for mutation detection what makes this article biologically and medically relevant. Even though the article has been undoubtedly improved there are minor points that still require the attention of the authors, namely:
1- The percentage of controls is still inferior to the breast cancer population studied. Also 40% of male controls are a very large number if we take into account that in the study group the authors only study approximately 4% of male subjects (8/204).
2- The text must be carefully looked at because there are still some inconsistencies in terms of English, and also in the summary part the mutation A2951T misses the T.
What next? Accept after minor essential revisions
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: No
Declaration of competing interests: I declare that I have no competing interests.
Fernando Schmitt
1. We have further screened 20 female controls making total number to 140 with 66% of females. The results have been incorporated in the text. Since this study is not a case-control study, it's not necessary to match the number of controls to number of patients.
2. The text is corrected at the above mentioned summary part.