Author's response to reviews

Title: Susceptibility to Type 1 Diabetes conferred by the PTPN22 C1857T Polymorphism in the Spanish population

Authors:

Jose Luis Santiago (jlsantial@gmail.com)
Alfonso Martinez (alfmdoncel@terra.es)
Hermenegildo de la Calle (hcalle.hrc@salud.madrid.org)
Miguel Fernandez-Arquero (mfernandez.hcsc@salud.madrid.org)
M. Angeles Figueredo (mfigueredo.hcsc@salud.madrid.org)
Emilio G de la Concha (egomezdela.hcsc@salud.madrid.org)
Elena Urcelay (eurcelay.hcsc@salud.madrid.org)

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Dear Editor,

Our manuscript entitled: "Susceptibility to Type 1 Diabetes conferred by the PTPN22 C1857T Polymorphism in Spanish population" has been revised and the reviewers concerns have been answered point by point (all changes are in red). Authors have read and approved the new version of the manuscript.

Sincerely,

Emilio G. de la Concha MD, PhD

Referee 1
1.- The reference about HLA typing has been added in the "Materials and Methods" section (page 4).
2.- We have mentioned in the discussion that our data does not withstand Bonferroni's correction.
3.- The abbreviations LYP and HLA have been included as suggested.

Referee 2
The diagnosis of T1D patients was established according with ADA criteria. We consider that the patient with an age at onset of 55 years old is not an outlier, because we have a wide range of patients older than 15 years of age at onset (31 in their thirties and 6 in their forties).
The data of the patients stratified by both gender and age at onset are shown now in table 2 of our manuscript and the allelic frequencies of HLA stratified groups have been added in the results section (page 6).

Referee 3
Huffmeier et al, J Invest Dermatol, 2006 Apr; 126(4):935-5 (reference 22 in our paper) is now properly credited.
To clarify the differences in the group with early onset, we add table 2 in the manuscript showing the OR and p values compared with controls. Unfortunately our data do not withstand Bonferroni's correction, so we propose further studies in T1D populations with a large range of ages at disease onset to corroborate the different sex- and age-dependent distribution of the PTPN22 variant.