Dear Editor,

As suggested by the reviewer, some modifications have been made in the manuscript and have also been addressed in the abstract (changes in red). Male and female controls do not show significant difference in the frequencies of allele T carriers (p=0.63); therefore, they are considered altogether to increase statistical power. The comparison of female and male patients does not reach statistical difference between T and C alleles (p=0.15). Frequencies are provided in the tables and when gender-stratified T1D and control subjects are compared, the OR\textsubscript{female} =2.09 (1.15-3.79) falls into the confidence interval of the OR\textsubscript{male} =1.31 (0.54-3.13) and vice versa; consequently, one can not unequivocally state that there is a gender effect in the overall cohorts. In our cohort, no difference in PTPN22 1858T frequencies exists between men and women with more than 15y. A significant difference between T1D men and T1D women could only be observed after double stratification based on gender and also on age at onset (p=0.022). That is what we have summarized in the abstract.

The manuscript has improved with this input and hopefully this new version is found suitable for publication.

Sincerely,

Emilio G. de la Concha