Author’s response to reviews

Title: Assessment of the feasibility of exon 45-55 multiexon skipping for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

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Author’s response to reviews:

Leiden, October 23rd, 2008

To: The Editor of BMC Medical Genetics

Subject: Manuscript submission

Dear Prof Koutsos,

On behalf of the co-authors, I would like to resubmit our manuscript “Assessment of the feasibility of exon 45-55 multiexon skipping for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy” by van Vliet et al for publication in BMC Medical Genetics. We appreciate that you have sought an additional expert editorial reviewer and that you still consider our paper for publication.

We have addressed the final minor comments of reviewer 2. A point by point outline is given below. We choose not to include a Figure containing the full-length products, as this Figure also includes even more additional products (due to the increased number of cycles and extension time) and thus would unnecessarily complicate an already very complex story even further.

Yours sincerely,

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Point-by-point changes

We have corrected the typo pointed out by reviewer 2 (NovaCastra into Novocastra, page 6, Material and Methods section).

We have included the website link to the software used to predict the splice sites in the legends to Figure 1B (http://www.fruitfly.org/seq_tools/splice.html). The acceptor splice site of exon 56 is indeed 0.97 (this has been changed in the Legends to Figure 1 and Figure 1 and the Results and Discussion section (page 7).

We have decided not to include the additional Figure that shows the full length fragment after additional cycles and a longer extension time, because we feel this will further complicate things. Due to the longer extension time and increased number of cycles, additional other products also appear and smears become more apparent.