Author’s response to reviews

Title: Variation in the circle of Willis in a Sri Lankan Population

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Cover letter

Reply to Reviewer

**Reviewer: Douglas Curran-Everett**

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Abstract, Results p 3, line 4. What statistically significant difference were found between studies? It is important to say precisely what differences you found. You state this later in the manuscript, but it is important to do so also in the Abstract.

*Statistically significant differences (p < 0.0001) were found between most of the studies.*

Changed to in **BLUE page 3**;

*Statistically significant differences (p < 0.0001) were found between most of the studies except for the Moroccan study.*

2. Percentages, throughout the manuscript. Is 0.1% all that important? Percentages can be rounded to the nearest integer. They will also be easier to read.

**Done in all pages:** 3, 11, 13, 22, 23

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**Reviewer: Hisashi Tanaka**

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions: None

Minor essential revisions:

Page 10 “Circles” and “triangles” do not match to Figure 3. I think the last sentence should be “Figure 3; the 6 studies are represented by filled circles and the 23 configurations are represented by filled triangles.”

*Figure 3; the 6 studies are represented by filled circles and the 23 configurations are represented by filled triangles.*

The reviewer is right that triangles are countries and circles are configurations.

Changed to in **BLUE page 11**

*Figure 3; the 6 studies are represented by filled circles triangles and the 23 configurations are represented by filled triangles circles.*
Discretionary revisions:
1. Page 3 Other study (Fisher) is stressed much in the later half of the results. Instead, authors should describe the degree of similarities or dissimilarities of the present study to other studies.

I prefer not to change

2. Page 4 Conclusion “Marked” variations may be too strong. I prefer more modest expression.

Changed to in **BLUE** page 4

**Conclusion:** The present study reveals that there are **marked significant** variations in the

Changed to in **BLUE** page 16

The present study reveals that there are **marked significant** variations in the CW among intra and