Title: Association of HFE common mutations with Parkinsons disease, Alzheimers disease and Mild Cognitive Impairment in a Portuguese cohort

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Version: 3 Date: 29 June 2006

Author's response to reviews: see over
June 29, 2006

Dear editor:

RE: Manuscript MS: 4960593595744065 - Association of HFE common mutations with Parkinsons disease, Alzheimers disease and Mild Cognitive Impairment in a Portuguese cohort

We are grateful for the reviews of our paper, which are fundamentally constructive and complete. We have altered the manuscript according to the reviewer’s suggestions and hope that you find these modifications satisfactory. The changes made are shown on the following page.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Rita Guerreiro
1) The revised ms should indicate that the small numbers in this study make an ultimate assessment of the biologic and genetic significance of the data impossible.

The following sentence was included in the discussion:

“The small number of individuals in this study makes an ultimate assessment of the biological and genetic significance of these data clearly impossible.”

2) The authors should combine all other studies on frequencies of HFE mutations in AD and PD

A whole section concerning the meta-analysis has been included in the discussion. Tables 4-7 represent the results of all studies on the subject, so far.