Author's response to reviews

Title: Genetic association between selected cytokine genes and glioblastoma in the Han Chinese population

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Version: 10 Date: 8 April 2013

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April 8, 2013.

The Biomed Central Editorial Team

**Object:** MS: 2305280138614554 - Genetic association between selected cytokine genes and glioblastoma in the Han Chinese population. Dr Tianbo Jin et al.

Thank you for consideration of our manuscript for publication in your journal. We have reviewed the above manuscript according to your reviewer’s comments.

**Reviewer #1 (Dr Stefania Boccia)**

**FEW COMMENTS:**

1. **remove table 1 as useless:**
   - The Table 1 has been removed as the reviewer indicates.

2. **table 3 clarify the meaning of AIC and BIC.**
   - We have clarified the meaning of AIC and BIC in the text and table 3.

3. **remove table 4 and report the results only in the text.**
   - Sorry. After careful consideration, we decided not to remove the table. The table is about the association between gene and GBM in gender specific population, and we advocate gender difference should be considered in the association analysis.
Reviewer # 2 (Dr Bojan Nedovic)

Minor Essential Revisions

1. In the Introduction, the first paragraph, needs rephrasing.
   Done

Discretionary Revisions

1. In the second paragraph (Introduction), please add, as reference, meta analysis if any.
   - We have added a reference---- meta-analysis about interleukin-4Rα and interleukine-13 with glioma risk in the text.

2. Exclude numbering of paragraphs in Methods.
   - Done

3. Please add reference in first part of second paragraph, on page 8, Discussion.
   - We have added a reference suggesting Th1 cell mainly produced IL-2, IFN-γ and TNF, mediating cellular immune response and involving in delayed type hypersensitivity. Th2 cell secreted IL-4, IL-6, IL-10 and IL-13, mainly mediating humoral immune response.