Author's response to reviews

Title: A novel BRCA-1 mutation in Arab kindred from east Jerusalem with breast and ovarian cancer

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To the Editor,

We attach the revised manuscript entitled: "A novel BRCA-1 mutation in Arab kindred from east Jerusalem with breast and ovarian cancer" according to the second reviewer comments.

We relate to the comments by the reviewer Fernando Schmitt point by point.

Reviewer: Fernando Schmitt

1. The word "cancer" was added to the sentence.

2. We tried to simplify the population section in the methods. We added a table that presents clinical characteristics of the population in a schematic manner.

3. According to the reviewer suggestion we emphasize the importance of genetic studies in this population in the context of screening programs, population education and identifying of at risk individuals for the benefit of this understudied population. In the first paragraph of the introduction we added a sentence: "These characteristics of BC in the Arab population raise the need for development of screening programs for early detection and the defining of high risk individuals in that population." In addition in the second paragraph on the discussion we added: "Therefore, this understudied population can provide important data regarding gene-environment interactions in well designed studies. Genetic studies may also aid in population education and compliance with early detection screening programs."
Regards,
Luna Kadouri