Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association of FcgammaRIIa R131H polymorphism with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis severity and progression

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
13th September 2010

RE: 6671262764119600 - BMC Pulmonary Medicine
Association of FcγRIIa R131H polymorphism with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis severity and progression.

Dear Dr Chap,

We would like to thank you for the review of our manuscript and for the helpful comments of the referees. In the revised manuscript, we have made the necessary modifications and we have included all the reviewers’ suggestions. A detailed point-by-point response is attached. We hope that these changes and modifications to the manuscript will now make it acceptable for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Dr Simon P. Hart
Senior Lecturer in Respiratory Medicine
Reviewer 1 – Martha Perez-Rodriguez

Major

As suggested, we have now included in the discussion section of the manuscript, the reason why the ancestral allele (H) frequency is lower than the R allele. (p. 11; lines 1-13).

Minor

1. We have now added detailed information in the methods section about the number of samples analysed by direct sequencing, as suggested (p. 6; lines 12-16).

2. We have included in the revised manuscript why the RR genotype was used as reference (p 9; lines 20-24; p. 10 lines 1-6).

Reviewer 2 – Martin Petrek

1. As the power to replicate the observed differences in minor allele frequencies between the IPF subgroups does not need to be calculated, we have removed this information from the revised manuscript, as suggested. Only the power to detect differences between IPF and control groups is now presented. (p. 6; lines 20-22).

2. We agree with the reviewer that the term “selected” does not provide sufficient information on the number of samples analysed by direct sequencing. As suggested by both reviewers, in the revised manuscript we provide additional information on the exact number of samples analysed by direct sequencing (p. 6; lines 12-16).