Author's response to reviews

Title: Nitric Oxide Synthase Polymorphisms, Gene Expression and Lung Function in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

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Discretionary Revisions

1. I suggest to introduce the three references of interest in the introduction just after the sentence “We selected polymorphisms in NOS genes that had previously been associated with gene function or COPD-related traits [25,26 and 27].

Response: We have made this change to the manuscript.

2. Check carefully that NOS is in italic when it means gene.

Response: We have carefully checked that NOS in italics refers to the gene. We only italicized specific gene names e.g. NOS1 and not references to the genes collectively e.g. “NOS genes”. We also italicized references to the mRNA and polymorphisms of each gene. We believe this to be in accordance with the HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee guidelines: