Author's response to reviews

Title: Reversible hypothyroidism and Whipple disease

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Author's response to reviews: see over
THE BIOMED CENTRAL EDITORIAL TEAM

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: MS – 1162385350809512 (REVERSIBLE HYPOTHYROIDISM AND WHIPPLE DISEASE)

Thank you for the email dated February 8th, 2005 regarding the above. My responses the reviewers’ comments are as follow:

REVIEWER 1 (PROFESSOR DIDIER RAOULT):

1. The identification sequence for the Whipple disease specific Primers have been included. Negative controls are thought to be satisfactory including MTB culture. PCR results are, in light of clinical outcome, considered adequately convincing but the author would be grateful for any further pointers from this aspect of the investigation.

2. Immunohistochemistry was not available routinely. Agreeably, PAS positivity, commonly seen in Whipple disease is non-specific but in the presence of positive EM, PCR findings and the clinical response, it was impossible to justify additional immunohistochemistry.

3. The link between the putative Whipple’s disease and hypothyroidism has been further discussed as far as possible given the limited availability of diagnostic tools and restricted clinical circumstances.

4. The majuscule in T. whippleii has been uniformly removed including abbreviations which have become Tw.

REVIEWER 2 (PROFESSOR THOMAS MARTH)

No further revision is required from Professor Marth.

With kind regards and it is hoped that the revised manuscript is to the reviewers’ excellent standard.

Yours Sincerely,

HUY A. TRAN

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