Author's response to reviews

Title: Deafness mutation mining using regular expression based pattern matching

Authors:

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To whom it may concern:

Thank you for your comments on my Manuscript entitled Deafness Mutation Mining Using Regular Expression Based Pattern Matching. My article has been adjusted to reflect the section headings suggested by the editor and the section on Availability and Requirements was added. My point-by-point response to the reviewers can be found below.

Reviewer: Ying Liu

1) The regular expression used for matching the PKA pattern has been added to the manuscript. Moreover, the manual validation step has been clarified to express that all 19,664 records were manually verified and not just the three successful matches. While no false negatives were noted during verification, potential sources of false negatives are now discussed.

2) While the reviewers comments are correct regarding the [ARNDCEQGHILKMFSTWYV]d+[ARNDCEQGHILKMFSTWYV] portion of the regular expression, the second half of the provided expression [A-Z][a-z][a-z]d+[A-Z][a-z][a-z] does allow for the matching of the three letter mutation notation.

3) Discussion of False negatives has been added to the Discussion and Conclusions section of the manuscript.

4) The minor grammar error has been corrected.

Reviewer: Thomas Van De Water

Information regarding the setup of the program has been added in two places. The paper now has a section on Availability and Requirements, which overviews much of the required information. Moreover, a paragraph at the end of the PREP utility subsection of the Implementation section has been added which highlights the steps required to run the PREP utility.