Author’s response to reviews

Title: Lack of association between serotonin transporter 5-HTT gene polymorphism and endometriosis in an Italian patient population

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Please find the revised version of the manuscript n. 5831827021245044 “Lack of association between serotonin transporter 5-HTT gene polymorphism and endometriosis in an Italian patient population” by Megiorni et al. with the requested revisions.

We added some sentences taking into account the referee comments.

We thank all the reviewers and editorial board for their observations and suggestions and look forward to your response.

With best regards,
Dr Francesca Megiorni

Referee 1

Major compulsory revisions:
The Authors state that the reduction in serotonin re-uptake leads to higher tendency to stress (Introduction) and that serotonin influences the affective and sensory components of the disease (conclusion). However, a thorough explanation of the role of serotonin in the pathogenesis of endometriosis is lacking: it is clear that a greater tendency to stress could influence pain perception in endometriosis, but how could it lead to the onset of the lesions? The Authors should dwell more on the hypothesis behind their work (How can serotonin transporter gene play a role in the pathogenesis of endometriosis?).

Referee 2

This reviewer misses a clear hypothesis behind the work performed.

We added in the main text some sentences and references that highlight the role of inflammatory factors in the development of endometriosis, a chronic pelvic disease characterized by increased production of activated peritoneal immune cells and pro-inflammatory molecules. We also underlined the emerging role of 5-HTT-mediated effects on the immune system and its cellular constituents.

In particular, we added the following references:


We underlined any areas of the text that we changed.