Author's response to reviews

Title: A novel sero-genetic approach determines the community prevalence of celiac disease and informs improved diagnostic pathways

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Author's response to reviews:

30th July, 2013
ImmusanT Inc.
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Ursula D'Souza, PhD
Senior Editor
BMC Medicine

Dear Dr. D'Souza

Re: MS: 2216813729870576
A novel sero-genetic approach determines the community prevalence of celiac disease and informs improved diagnostic pathways
Robert Anderson, Margaret J Henry, Roberta Taylor, Emma L Duncan, Patrick Danoy, Marylia J Costa, Kathryn Addison, Jason A Tye-Din, Mark A Kotowicz,
Ross E Knight, Wendy Pollock, Geoffrey C Nicholson, Ban-Hock Toh, Matthew A Brown and Julie A Pasco

Further to your email dated July 30th following our re-submission of this manuscript, please find our response to your editorial requests. All changes in the text have been highlighted in red.

(1) Please indicate that informed consent was obtained as follows: Informed consent must be documented. The research should be carried out within an ethical framework, e.g. if the severity of the experimental procedure is not justified by the value of the knowledge gained.

The Methods section now begins with “Study Populations” (formerly “Ethics Statement” and “Subjects”) and Ethics Statement has been replaced by a final paragraph in the Study Population section:

“Approval by the appropriate ethics committees was obtained by each of the participating centers: The Barwon Health Human Research and Ethics Committee granted approval for the original prospective community cohorts (92/01 and 00/56). An amendment in 2009 allowed testing for CD (92/01-s5 and 00/56-s5); and The Melbourne Health Human Research Ethics Committee approved recruitment of volunteers with biopsy-confirmed CD for the study “Gluten Immunity in Coeliac Disease” (2003.009). Written informed consent was obtained from each volunteer participating in the study.”

(2) Please provide an abbreviation section as follows:
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmed/authors/instructions/researcharticle#formatting-abbreviations

A new section has been included “List of abbreviations” and where appropriate the abbreviation has been used in the text.

(3) Please change the financial disclosure section to acknowledgements section as follows:
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcmed/authors/instructions/researcharticle#formatting-acknowledgements

As requested the financial disclosure section has been shifted to a (new) acknowledgements section.

I trust these amendments adequately address your comments. We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Robert P. Anderson

On behalf of the authors