Author's response to reviews

Title: My Sister's Keeper?: Genomic Research and the Identifiability of Siblings

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Please find attached our manuscript, "My Sister's Keeper?: Genomic Research and the Identifiability of Siblings," for consideration as a research article in BMC Medical Genomics.

Genomic data are increasingly prevalent in research and clinical settings. Sharing or publication of these data may reveal information not only about the tested patients, but also about their siblings, leading to complex ethical and regulatory considerations.

Given the diverse uses of genomic data, within and external to the biomedical enterprise, we believe that these findings are of substantial interest broadly. By quantifying the familial information content of SNP data, we provide a means to understand the risk of sibling identification and the ability to derive a sibling's disease propensity from shared data, risk that should be communicated, for example, in informed consent for genetic testing.

Our manuscript contains 1,900 words of body text and 4 figures, comprising 11 panels in total, one chart, and an abstract of 111 words. The Supplementary Information contains 1,450 words and one chart containing three sections in total.

Sincerely,
Christopher Cassa