Author's response to reviews

Title: A comprehensive analysis of adiponectin QTLs using SNP association, SNP cis-effects on peripheral blood gene expressions and gene expression correlation identified novel metabolic syndrome (MetS) genes with potential role in carcinogenesis and systemic inflammation

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Version: 2 Date: 12 April 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Jesus Sainz,

It is my pleasure submitting to your attention our revised manuscript entitled “A comprehensive analysis of adiponectin QTLs using SNP association, SNP cis-effects on peripheral blood gene expression and gene expression correlation identified novel metabolic syndrome (MetS) genes with potential role in carcinogenesis and systemic inflammation”. In addressing all comments of the two reviewers, we have undergone extensive editing of our originally submitted manuscript (MS: 1248641380873412) and submitted our gene expression data to GEO under accession number GSE45987. We hope that you find the revised manuscript acceptable to be published in BMC Medical Genomics.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me for any questions related to this article.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Yi Zhang
Reviewer's report
Title: A comprehensive analysis of adiponectin QTLs using SNP association, SNP cis-effects on peripheral blood gene expressions and gene expression correlation identified novel metabolic syndrome (MetS) genes with potential role in carcinogenesis and systemic inflammation

Version: 1 Date: 11 January 2013

Reviewer: brian J bennett

Reviewer's report:
This manuscript fine maps a previous QTL for adiponectin using SNP genotypes and reports associations for adiponectin levels and clinical traits associated with metabolic syndrome. The authors use expression analysis to refine candidate gene selection and to demonstrate potential biological links to cancer and inflammation. The authors have addressed my previous comments and considerably improved the manuscript.

Major Compulsory Revisions- submission of gene expression data to GEO and report the accession number in manuscript.
Response to reviewer: We have submitted our gene expression data to the GEO database under accession number GSE45987. We have added this to the methods section of the manuscript.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.
Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests
Version: 1 Date: 22 March 2013

Reviewer: Ana Petelin

Reviewer's report:

Comments:

1. An article needs language corrections before being published
   Response to reviewer: The manuscript has been edited by a native English speaker.

2. ABSTRACT: Abstract must be structured into separate section: Background, Methods, Results and Conclusions. · Background and Methods are merged
   Response to reviewer: The abstract has been formatted into Background, Methods, Results and Conclusion sections.

3. RESULTS:

   Intercorrelation between plasma adiponectin levels and MetS phenotypes
   · Be focused on results (do not discus results in the results section)
   · Do not repeat results
   · Use abbreviations

   Response to reviewer: We have modified the text in this section of the Results.

   SNP genotype/phenotype association
   · Results contain description of a method, this should be described in the Methods Section

   Response to reviewer: We have made the changes accordingly.

   The cis-SNP effects on gene expression
   · Be focused on results

   Response to reviewer: We have made the changes accordingly.

4. DISCUSSION:

   Discussion is very long. It should be shortened and focused on obtained results.
Response to reviewer: We have substantially shortened and modified the entire text of Discussion, to be more focused on interpretation of the results.