Author's response to reviews

Title: PCR amplification of a triple-repeat genetic target directly from whole blood in 15 minutes as a proof-of-principle PCR study for direct sample analysis for a clinically relevant target

Authors:

Christopher M Connelly (cconnelly@streck.com)
Laura R Porter (lporter@streck.com)
Joel R TerMaat (jitermaat@huskers.edu)

Version: 3 Date: 20 November 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
November 20, 2014

BMC Medical Genetics
c/o Executive Editor, Tim Sands
Floor 6, 236 Gray’s Inn Road
London
WC1X 8HB
United Kingdom

Dear Catherine Rice, Dr. Samuel Chong, Editorial Members, and whom it may concern,

This cover letter accompanies the resubmission of our manuscript entitled “PCR amplification of a triple-repeat genetic target directly from whole blood in 15 minutes as a proof-of-principle PCR study for direct sample analysis for a clinically relevant target” by Connelly et al., to be considered for publication as a technical advance article in BMC Medical Genetics.

First, I would like to thank BMC Medical Genetics, the Editorial Staff, and the Reviewers for their careful re-evaluation of this manuscript. We reviewed this document again internally and made spelling and grammar corrections. No content was changed. Most importantly, the three remaining critiques outlined in the most recent email from the BMC Editorial Team have been addressed and those changes are detailed below:

Editorial Request: 1) Please provide email address details for all authors on the title page of the manuscript.

Response: Laura R. Porter and associated email has been added to line 11.

Editorial Request: 2) Please provide details of the ethics approval obtained for the study and include a sentence regarding informed consent given by the participants. All research must have been carried out within an appropriate ethical framework. If there is suspicion that work has not taken place within an appropriate ethical framework, Editors will follow the Misconduct policy and may reject the manuscript, and/or contact the author(s)? institution or ethics committee. On rare occasions, if the Editor has serious concerns about the ethics of a study, the manuscript may be rejected on ethical grounds, even if approval from an ethics committee has been obtained.

Response: Line 136-138 includes the requested statement relevant to Streck’s IRB approval and informed consent for participants.

Editorial Request: 3) Please rename Introduction to Background.

Response: Line 67 was changed from “Introduction” to “Background”.

Thanks again for the careful review of this manuscript and we look forward to your review of the revised document. Please let us know if you have further questions.

Sincerely Yours,

[Signature]

Christopher M. Connelly, Ph.D.
Research and Development Scientist
Streck Inc., Omaha, Nebraska