Author’s response to reviews

Title: First case report of Cohen Syndrome in the Tunisian population caused by VPS13B mutations

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MGTC-D-17-00077

First case report of Cohen Syndrome in the Tunisian population caused by VPS13B mutations

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BMC Medical Genetics

Dear Editor

Thank you very much for considering our manuscript and for the constructive comments. Please find enclosed:

- The revised manuscript (no: MGTC-D-17-00077) in which we addressed all comments of the referees
- The responses to the referee’s comments.
We hope that this revised version meets the referees and Editorial Board standards and is now suitable for publication in the BMC Medical Genetics journal.

Best regards.

Imen REJEB

Editor's comments:

1. Please clarify whether the patients' parents gave their consent to publish the patients' images. If not, please remove the patients' photographs from Figure 1 to protect the patients' anonymity.

If consent to publish images was granted, and deemed necessary to include in this case report, please anonymise the photographs by blanking out the patients' eyes.

Consent for publication of respective patients' images was obtained from patients’ parents.

2. We have noted that in the Ethical approval and consent to participate section you have stated that consent was obtained from each subject, but the subjects in this case were children, so consent must be obtained from their parents or legal guardians. Please amend this statement.

We apologize for this error. This statement was revised and corrected in the revised version.

3. It has come to our attention that throughout the manuscript there is significant text overlap with other publications. While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. We would therefore be grateful if you could provide a justification for the overlap in text between your manuscript and other sources. Please be informed that we cannot proceed with handling your manuscript before this issue is resolved, and the sections of text in question have been reformulated. The report has been attached to further help your revisions.

Many thanks for pointing out that. We wished to express the same ideas contained in these publications. We apologize for that overlapping text. As suggested by the referee all the sections of text in question have been reformulated in the revised version.

4. Please note that all manuscripts must contain all the following sections under the heading 'Declarations'. The Declarations should follow the Conclusions section, and be before the References.

Abbreviations

Ethics approval and consent to participate
Consent for publication

Availability of data and material

Competing interests

Funding

Authors' contributions

Acknowledgements

Please see here for details on the information to be included in these sections:

https://bmcmedgenet.biomedcentral.com/submission-guidelines/preparing-your-manuscript/case-report

If the information required is already provided in the main manuscript, please also copy the relevant statements to the Declarations.

If any of the sections are not relevant to your manuscript, please include the heading and write 'Not applicable' for that section.

The section “Declarations” was already provided in the main manuscript and followed the Conclusions section, and was before the References. We added abbreviations to this section.

5. The figure legends need to be checked for English language issues, especially the figure legend for Figure 1, e.g. "b: the brother’s proband".

We apologize for this error. This was corrected in the revised version.

6. Please provide figure titles/legends under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References. If Figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them.

Figure titles/legends were provided under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References

7. We would also like to ask for you to provide more justification for the contributions of LH, as currently they do not automatically qualify for authorship. Contribution to technical parts, alone, does not usually justify authorship.
An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. According to the ICMJE guidelines, to qualify as an author one should have:

a) made substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; AND

b) been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND

c) given final approval of the version to be published. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content; AND

d) agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Anyone listed as an author must be included in this section. If you choose to change your author list you will need to fill out a change in authorship form and send it by email to the Editorial office to be approved by the Editor. The form can be found here: https://www.biomedcentral.com/getpublished/editorial-policies#authorship.

Anyone who contributed towards the article who does not meet the criteria for authorship can be acknowledged in the ‘Acknowledgements’ section.

LH also contributed in revising the paper. We apologize for this omission. It was changed in the Authors’ contribution section.