Reviewer's report

Title: A novel TEX11 mutation induces azoospermia: a case report of infertile brothers and literature review

Version: 0 Date: 08 Oct 2016

Reviewer: Marta Olszewska

Reviewer's report:

Interesting paper. Good idea, nice results. A case report, in fact. However, manuscript has to be improved a little bit experimentally and grammatically.

Major points:
1. Control group is needed for evaluation of sequencing in fertile men (at least 100). It is recommended, because authors have found novel mutation in TEX11 gene, that was not observed by other authors. Thus, sequencing of a quite control group should be done, to find, if this mutation may be present not only in azoospermia.
2. What about bioethical written consent from fertile man (men?), which biopsy was used? What was the primary reason for possessing the material from him, if he was fertile? It has to be supplemented and cleared, undoubtedly.

Minor points:
1. English is terrible. It should be edited and corrected by certified native speaker. It will allow to avoid strange descriptions, as: protein expression or race when talking about ethnicity/geography. Text should be corrected to have a better reading flow and be less chaotic.
2. Authors should pay attention on the fact that human genes are written using capitals and italic (TEX11), while for other species only first letter is capital, followed by small ones (i.e. Tex11). The same rule for proteins, but no italic, just straight text. It has to be clear in the manuscript, what literature data concern what species.
3. Introduction: some part of text that was in Discussion (lines: 235-288) should be in Introduction. It should be a compilation with the introduction fragment 76-121, finally shorter and less chaotic that is in a present form.
4. Discussion needs strong rewriting. The proper discussion for results obtained by authors begins from the line 289.
5. Authors should include more references (marked in the text).
6. Also authors should add more detailed description of procedures and experiments, including providers of buffers and reagents, equipment (i.e., microscope) that was used in the study.
7. Some parts of Materials and Methods are Results, in fact. So, please, check, if this form of text is appropriate for BMC Med Genet format. If not, then correct the text.
8. Seminal analyses should be done according to WHO guidelines. Similarly, karyotyping should be done as described in ISCN. Why there is no such information in the manuscript? Had authors other guidelines? Please, clarify this.

Please, check remarks in the attached files.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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