Author’s response to reviews

Title: A novel mutation in the OAR domain of PITX3 associated with congenital posterior subcapsular cataract

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear editors,

Thank you very much for your letter. I am very pleased to learn that our manuscript is potentially acceptable for publication in BMC Medical Genetics with some essential revisions. We have studied editor's comments carefully and have made correction which we hope adhere to editorial requirements and policies.

Yours sincerely

Yi Lu

To editor's comments:
1. Please clarify where the samples are from, the Methods section state that the samples were collected from the family members for the purposes of this study, whereas the Acknowledgements section states "The samples used for the analyses described in this manuscript were obtained from the EENT Biobank." These are conflicting statements.

Response: The peripheral venous blood samples were collected from the three participants while DNA samples were isolated from the blood samples and stored at the EENT Biobank. We have detailed these at acknowledgements section (Revised manuscript: Acknowledgements section: line 11-12, page:11).

2. Please consider the list of authors as it currently stands with reference to our guidelines regarding qualification for authorship (http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship). Currently, the contributions of all authors do not automatically qualify them for authorship. In the section “Authors’ contributions”, please provide further clarifications on their contributions, and see our guidelines for authorship below. An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. Authors are expected to fulfil the criteria below (adapted from McNutt et al., Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Feb 2018, 201715374; DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1715374115; licensed under CC BY 4.0): Each author is expected to have made substantial contributions to the conception OR design of the work; OR the acquisition, analysis, OR interpretation of data; OR the creation of new software used in the work; OR have drafted the work or substantively revised it. AND to have approved the submitted version (and any substantially modified version that involves the author's contribution to the study); AND to have agreed both to be personally accountable for the author's own contributions and to ensure that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work, even ones in which the author was not personally involved, are appropriately investigated, resolved, and the resolution documented in the literature. Acquisition of funding, collection of data or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not usually justify authorship. If these guidelines are not met, we would request the following change of authorship form be filled out and sent to our editorial office - https://resource-cms.springernature.com/springer-cms/rest/v1/content/7454878/data/v5. Anyone who contributed towards the article who does not meet the criteria for authorship can be acknowledged in the ‘Acknowledgements’ section.

Response: We have provided detailed clarifications on authors' contributions in the section “Authors’ contributions" according to the editorial guidelines for authorship. QF drafted and
revised the manuscript. LC, XQ and ZZ acquired and analysed the data. DL and JHW analysed and interpreted the data. YL and JY designed the study protocol, revised the manuscript and conducted the study as a supervisor. All authors read and approved the final manuscript (Revised manuscript: Author contributions section: line 6-9, page:11).

3. Please remove the Publisher's Note section from the Declarations, this is not a standard section.

Response: We have removed the Publisher's Note section from the Declarations.

4. Please include an Additional File list heading above the list of supplementary materials list.

Response: We have included an Additional Files list heading above the list of supplementary materials list (Revised manuscript: Additional File section: line 7, page:15).

5. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Response: We have uploaded our manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant figures and additional files were the clean versions. Figures and additional files were uploaded as separate files.