Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association of a genetic variant in the Angiopoietin-like protein 4 gene with Metabolic Syndrome

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor

Thank you very much for your letter of April 30th and for the constructive comments made by yourself and the Reviewers on our manuscript, entitled “Association of a genetic variant in the Angiopoietin-like protein 4 gene with Metabolic Syndrome” (Manuscript No. MGTC-D-18-00465R3), submitted for consideration to be published as a research article in the Journal of BMC Medical Genetics.

We appreciate the positive and constructive input made by yourself and the reviewers on our manuscript; we are pleased to send you the manuscript carefully revised according to your advice as well as to the criticisms of the Reviewers, within the deadline that you proposed. Concerning the specific points raised by the Reviewers, the point-to-point reply to the Reviewers is enclosed.
Moreover, in order to help you and the Reviewers in the identification of the modifications in the revised manuscript, we enclosed the manuscript in track-change format.

We very much hope that the present version of the manuscript satisfactorily addresses all the observations made by you and the Reviewers and meets the quality standard for publication in the Journal of the BMC Medical Genetics.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Yours sincerely,
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REPLIES TO REVIEWERS’ COMMENTS
(Manuscript No. MGTC-D-18-00465R3)

Editor Comments:

1. Please consider the list of authors as it currently stands.

Currently, the contributions of authors G A. F, M Gh-M, A A 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 attached change of authorship form be filled out and sent to our editorial office.

Reply: we truly appreciate very much the positive inputs and recommendations of the Scientific Editor on our manuscript. We are pleased to send you the manuscript carefully revised according to your advice. We very much hope that the present version of the manuscript satisfactorily addresses all the observations made by editor.

We have provided more details about the Authors' contributions in the declarations section "We declare that we contributed significantly towards the research study i.e., Data analysis was performed by M T, H E and H Gh. Conception and interpretation of results was performed by M T, H E, and H Gh. A A , J Kh-Kh and A R-M, designed the presented idea. Drafting the article performed by S Kh-Kh and developed by S S. Revising the paper critically for important intellectual content was carried out by G A. F, S Kh-Kh, and S S and finally the article was approved by G A. F, M Gh-M, A A. The project supervised by H E and A A".

2. Please include a statement in the Authors' contributions section to the effect that all authors have read and approved the manuscript, and ensure that this is the case.

Reply: We appreciate very much the positive and constructive comments of this editor on our manuscript. As requested, we have added a statement in the Authors' contributions section to the effect that all authors have read and approved the manuscript "All authors read and approved the final manuscript".
3. Please ensure the corresponding author email address in your manuscript matches that in the submission system. Currently these do not match and this must be corrected before we can proceed due to production correspondence.

Reply: First of all we apologize for this mistake. The corresponding author email address (Dr.Esmaily) have corrected in the revised manuscript.