Author’s response to reviews

Title: COL5A1 rs12722 polymorphism is not associated with passive muscle stiffness and sports-related muscle injury in Japanese athletes

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Author’s response to reviews:

September 27th, 2019

Dr. Arwa Tawfiq
Assistant Editor
BMC Medical Genetics
Dear Dr. Arwa Tawfiq,

I along with my coauthors, would like to submit the revised manuscript entitled “COL5A1 rs12722 polymorphism is not associated with passive muscle stiffness and sports-related muscle injury in Japanese athletes” for publication in the BMC Medical Genetics. The manuscript ID is MGTC-D-19-00262R1.

We would like to thank the editor for the thorough review and the comments. We have taken care to address all the comments, and our responses to each comment are included below. We hope that the revisions in our paper and our responses to the comments are satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

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Editors' Comments:

1. Role of funding bodies

Please provide more details regarding the specific role of each of the funding bodies in your study. If the funding bodies only provided the financial means to allow the authors to carry out the study, please state “The funding bodies played no role in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript” and include this statement in the Funding section of your manuscript.
However, if each of the funding bodies took part in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, and the writing of the manuscript, this must be stated in the Competing Interests section of your manuscript.

In the present study, all of the funding bodies played no role in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript. To clarify this point, we have stated “All these funding bodies played no role in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.” in the Funding section of the revised manuscript.

2. Authors’ contributions

We note that two authors have the same initials “HK”. To distinguish between them in the Authors’ Contributions section please designate them as "HK1" and "HK2", with "HK1" corresponding to Hiroshi Kumagai, chosen because this name is furthest up the author list.

We also note that three authors have the same initials “NK”. To distinguish between them in the Authors’ Contributions section please designate them as "NK1" and "NK2" and “NK3”, with "NK1" corresponding to Noaki Kikuchi, “NK2” corresponding to “Noriko Kimura”, and “NK3” corresponding to “Nobuhiro Kamiya” chosen because of the order of these names in the author list.

In keeping with the editor’s comment, we have revised Authors’ contributions section of the revised manuscript.

3. Ethics approval and consent to participate

Please replace the statement in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section of your manuscript “The present study was approved by the Ethics Committees of the Juntendo University, Nippon Sport Science University, Tenri University, and National Institute of Fitness and Sports in Kanoya” with the statement “The present study was approved by the Ethics Committees of the Juntendo University, Nippon Sport Science University, Tenri University, and
National Institute of Fitness and Sports in Kanoya and was performed in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki.”.

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&gt; In keeping with the editor’s comment, we have replaced the statement in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section of the revised manuscript.

4. 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. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please put your responses to the reviewers'/editors’ comments in the Response to Reviewers box in Editorial Manager. Please do not upload a separate letter.

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