Author’s response to reviews

Title: Molecular Epidemiology and Hematologic Characterization of δβ-thalassemia and Hereditary Persistence of Fetal Hemoglobin in 125661 Families of Greater Guangzhou Area, the metropolis of Southern China

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Version: 5 Date: 12 Feb 2020

Author's response to reviews:

Editor: Your manuscript "Molecular Epidemiology and Hematologic Characterization of δβ-thalassemia and Hereditary Persistence of Fetal Hemoglobin in 125661 Families of Greater Guangzhou Area, the metropolis of Southern China" (MGTC-D-19-00552R4) has been assessed. Many thanks for your response to our revision requests. However, there are a few final editorial requests we would like you to address before we accept the manuscript, detailed below.

1. Form of consent to participate

While you have stated that “informed consent was obtained from all subjects participating in the study” this is insufficient.

In the section 'Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate', please state whether the informed consent obtained was written or verbal.

If consent was verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or is deemed unnecessary according to national regulations, please clearly state this, including the name of the IRB or a reference to the relevant legislation.

Answer: We have revised the manuscript according to the editor’s comment. The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Guangzhou Women & Children Medical Center and written informed consent was obtained from all subjects. We have attached to email (em@editorialmanager.com). According to the reviewer, we have described in more detail about it in line 16-17 of Declarations in the manuscript.
2. Authors’ contributions

Please note the order of initials when referring to an author in the Authors' contributions should be [first initial of first name][first initial of middle name, if applicable][first initial of last name]. Please amend the order of initials in regard to each author as appropriate.

Answer: We have revised the manuscript according to the editor’s comment. We have amended the order of initials in regard to each author.

3. Abbreviations

We note that some abbreviations are missing from the Abbreviations section of your manuscript, such as HbF, δβ-thalassemia, and CE. Please ensure that all abbreviations have been included in the ‘Abbreviations’ section.

Answer: The editor is right. We have revised the manuscript according to the editor’s comment. Some abbreviations which were missing have been included in line 2, 6 and 7 of Abbreviations in the revised manuscript.

4. Please note that all data must be made public prior to publication and we cannot proceed to publish your manuscript if your data is not deposited and made publicly available. We are an open access journal and submission of a manuscript to a BMC journal implies that materials described in the manuscript, including all relevant raw data, will be freely available to any scientist wishing to use them for non-commercial purposes. As your data falls under the list of data types which must be deposited (listed below), we ask that you please provide the relevant accession numbers, and the name of the database in which your data is stored, if your data has been deposited into a database or the appropriate web links if the data has been uploaded into a repository. If the data has not yet been deposited, please do so and provide the relevant information needed to access it in the ‘Availability of data and materials’ section in your manuscript. Please ensure all data is already released and that any accession numbers/web links are in the ‘Availability of Data and Materials’ in their final form, and that all web links and accessions allow access to public data.

Answer: We have revised the manuscript according to the editor’s comment. The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available in the [https://pan.baidu.com/[repository,[https://pan.baidu.com/s/1dVJCzZ5s7uw71DerixZB7g. access code: yiij]. I have provided the information in line 8-9 of Declarations in the manuscript.
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. 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.

Answer: The editor is right. We have revised the manuscript according to the editor’s comment.