Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence and Correlates of Apathy in Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1

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Version: 4 Date: 29 April 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
April 24, 2015

Dear Dr Shipley,

Thank you for considering our submission. Please see below our answers to the reviewers.

Reviewer 1 (R1)
R1: did the MDE in the nine DM1 definitely not correlate with apathy (subgroup analysis)?
Authors (A): As suggested, we have added a supplementary table (Supplementary files – Table 1) with results on correlation between apathy and depression in the depressed DM1 patients subgroup. Moreover, we have commented this result in the Results section (L 232-233).

Reviewer 2 (R2)
R2: 1- page 11 that “this is the first study to demonstrate that apathy is highly prevalent in DM1” should be deleted.
A: We have corrected this sentence, and wrote instead: “This study demonstrates that apathy is highly prevalent in DM1 patients compared to matched healthy controls” (L 247).

R2: 2a- these (FSH) patients were 10 years older. How do the authors think this could affect the results?
A: This point is now discussed in the paragraph on study limitations (P 15, L 340-5).

R2: 3- In the table, it is inappropriate to present the CTG repeats by decimal numbers.
A: This has been corrected (Table 1).

R2: 4- What is the chance of mass significance for some measures in the multiple statistical analyses carried out in tables 2 and 3?
A: We added a comment in the Study limitations with regards to this point (P 15, L 333-5).

Reviewer 3 (R3)
R3: Description of the statistical analyses (l. 176 ff): (1) Please add the Chisquare
test. (2) Spearman's correlation coefficient is a measure of the monotone relationship.
A: (1) We added the Chi-square test (L 179-181) and (2) removed the term “strength of the relationships” (L 183).

R3: 2- Reporting of p-values: Notation such as "p < 0.05" should be avoided and actual p-values should be reported.
A: Actual p-values are now reported in the Results section.