Author’s response to reviews

Title: Role of t-PA and PAI-1 Variants in Temporal Lobe Epilepsy in Chinese Han Population

Authors:

Wenxiu Han (ppheqq_cool@126.com)
Pei Jiang (jiangpeicsu@sina.com)
Yujin Guo (guoyujin99@126.com)
Pengfei Xu (pengfeixucsu@outlook.com)
Ruili Dang (rosydang@126.com)
Gongying Li (Ligongying2005@126.com)
Xin He (hexin526@126.com)
Dehua Liao (liaodehua1125@126.com)
Genquan Yan (yangenquan@126.com)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Prof. Lauren McMillan,

Thanks for your letter and reviewers’ comments concerning our manuscript entitled “Role of t-PA and PAI-1 variants in temporal lobe epilepsy in Chinese Han population” (Manuscript No.: NURL-D-18-00101). The comments are very valuable and all the suggestions have been carefully considered. A single, final, clean version of our manuscript and the relevant table has been uploaded. We hope this revised version will have sufficient quality for acceptance by BMC Neurology. The main corrections of some essential revisions listed and the point-by-point response to the reviewer’s comments are as follows:

1. Some essential revisions listed below:

1) At the end of this email are some final comments from the reviewers of your manuscript. Please address these comments.
RE: We have read the final comments from the reviewers of your manuscript at the end of this email and made the point-by-point response to the reviewer’s comments.

2) We note that the current submission contains some textual overlap with other previously published works, in particular:

"Association between Vitamin D Receptor Gene Polymorphisms with Childhood Temporal Lobe Epilepsy" (2015) https://dx.doi.org/10.3390/ijerph121113913

Overlap exists in page 5 lines 1-11.


Overlap exists in page 5 lines 12-25.

Since the overlap is contained within the Methods section, and rephrasing the methods would not be conducive to future reproducibility of your study, we ask that, for these sections of textual overlap, you provide a summarizing statement explaining this methodology has been published previously and provide the attribution to the sources mentioned above.

RE: We have provided a summarizing statement explaining this methodology has been published previously and provided the attribution to the sources mentioned above after checking the textual overlap in Methods section of our manuscript carefully.

3) Currently, the contributions of authors YIG, GYL, DHL and PFX do not automatically qualify them for authorship. Please provide clarification on their contributions, or remove their names from the list of authors and place them in the “Acknowledgements” section instead. Please note that any changes in the list of authors require the completion of the “Change in authorship” form.

An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. According to the ICMJE guidelines, to qualify as an author one should have:

a) made substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; AND

b) been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
c) given final approval of the version to be published. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content; AND

d) agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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).

Acquisition of funding, collection of data, writing of the manuscript or general supervision of the research group - alone - does not usually justify authorship.

RE: We have provided clarification on the contributions of authors YJG, GYL, DHL and PFX and qualified them for authorship.

4) 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.

RE: The content of “all authors have read and approved the manuscript, and ensure that this is the case” has been included in the statement of Authors' contributions section.

5) Please confirm whether informed consent, written or verbal, was obtained from all participants and clearly state this in your Methods and Ethics approval and consent to participate sections. If verbal, please state the reason and whether the ethics committee approved this procedure. If the need for consent was waived by an 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.

If already provided in the Methods section, please copy the details to the Ethics approval and consent to participate section.

RE: The details on informed consent of participants and ethics approval provided in the Methods section have been copied to the Ethics approval and consent to participate section.
6) Consent for publication refers to consent for the publication of identifying images or other personal or clinical details of participants that compromise anonymity. If your manuscript uses identifying images or other personal/clinical details, please include a statement of consent to publish from the patient, or in the case of minors, the patients’ guardians. If this is not applicable to your manuscript please state “Not Applicable” in this section.

RE: We have stated “Not Applicable” in the Consent for publication section of our manuscript.

7) Please provide a 'Declarations’ heading above your Declarations section.

RE: We have provided a 'Declarations' heading above our Declarations section.

8) 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 colors. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

RE: A single, final, clean version of our manuscript and the relevant table has been uploaded.

2. Peer-Reviewer #1:

1) The authors have addressed all my concerns and I have no additional suggestions for the authors.

RE: Thanks very much for your affirmation of the revision.

3. Peer-Reviewer #2:

1) The authors have addressed my concerns. However, there are a couple of awkward transitions between the original text (written in black) and the new text (written in red). I suggest another read through the manuscript to correct these awkward transitions.

RE: Thanks for your comments on our manuscript and we have read through the manuscript and corrected these awkward transitions to ensure the readability of the article.
With Best Regards,

Genquan Yan

Department of Pharmacy,

Shandong Provincial Hospital, Shandong University,

China (P.R.)

Tel: +86 531 68778252; Fax: +86 531 68778252

E-mail: yangenquan@126.com