Author’s response to reviews

Title: Interaction between COX-1 and COX-2 increases susceptibility to ischemic stroke in a Chinese population

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editors and Reviewers:

Thank you for your valuable comments on our manuscript entitled “Interaction between COX-1 and COX-2 increases susceptibility to ischemic stroke in a Chinese population” (ID: NURL-D-18-00883R1). Those comments are all very valuable and helpful for us to revise and improve our article. We have studied these comments carefully and have revised our manuscript as recommended. Revised portion are marked using track changes in the paper. The main corrections in the paper and the responds to the reviewer’s comments are as flowing:
Responds to the reviewer’s comments:

Thanks for all of Prof. Munshi’s kind comments.

Anjana Munshi, Ph. D (Reviewer 1):

1) The major concern is that the discussion is poorly written.
We had rewritten our discussion part. Hopefully it will meet your standard.

2) No reference to previous literature has been given.
The references to previous literature were in the background part of our revised manuscript and the detailed revision can be found in Page 3-4, reference 11-18.

3) The mechanistic aspects underlying the association between the significant variants and the development of ischemic stroke have not been given properly.
We added mechanistic aspects underlying the association between the significant variants and the development of ischemic stroke in the background of our revised manuscript and the detailed revision can be found on Background, paragraph 2.

4) The authors should have added a list of previous studies indicating the contribution of COX-1 and COX-2 gene variants with ischemic stroke.
The previous studies indicating the contribution of COX-1 and COX-2 gene variants with ischemic stroke were stated in our revised manuscript and the detailed statement can be found in Background, reference 19-23.

5) The language also needs attention
We have made many language editing in this revised manuscript in order to meet the publish standard.
Ilona Anna Kopyta, MD. PhD (Reviewer 2):

The original paper describes the influence of COX gene mutations on susceptibility of ischemic stroke in Han Chinese population. The material and method section is properly and clearly described, as well as the results. The literature is up to date and consistent with the aim and results of the study. The paper, in my opinion, is a valuable and practical, deserves the publication

Response: Thank you for your affirmative comments of our research.

Ruth Anne Stetler (Reviewer 3): The paper submission by Lei et al. indicate an association between various COX variants and stroke susceptibility in a Chinese Han population. These results are interesting and fairly well discussed (minor language editing would be useful). In addition to assessing stroke susceptibility, comparisons between the COX variants and other factors in the included population that may affect susceptibility (e.g., diabetes, hypertension, length of smoking) would be useful to be presented, with appropriate control groups. The authors state an adjustment was made for related risk factors; however, a question remains as to whether the studied variants would also correlate to those risk factors.

Response: Thanks for Prof. Stetler's affirmative comments and valuable suggestions. We had revised the language editing carefully, hopefully it will meet Prof. Stetler's standard. We have analyzed the relationship of the studied variants. The findings were stated in our result and discussion. The detail of these risk factors was given in Supporting Information (Table 3) in our revised manuscript.

Thanks again for all the reviewers' comments and all the editors' effort for our manuscript. We sincerely hope our revised manuscript will be acceptable to be published on BMC Neurology.
Looking forward to hearing from you soon. If there's any question, please feel welcome to contact me any time.

Best regards

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