Author’s response to reviews

Title: Inflammation biomarker discovery in Parkinson's disease and atypical parkinsonisms

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

Please find enclosed our revised manuscript entitled “Inflammation biomarker discovery in Parkinson's disease and atypical parkinsonisms” (manuscript number NURL-D-19-00721).

First of all, we would like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to submit a revised version of our manuscript to be considered for publication in BMC Neurology. We would also like to apologize for the delay in the re-submission. The reason for the delay is that, due to an (extended European-style) holiday, neither myself nor the first author were able to have internet access until January 6th. Besides, during Christmas and the end-of-the-year period, all labs are closed. Below we provide a point-by-point response to the Editor comments, and how we addressed these points in the manuscript. As requested, we uploaded the manuscript as a single, final, clean version without track changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours.

1. It is noticed that authors Rianne A.J. Esselink, Alain J. van Gool, Bas R. Bloem are not found in the Authors contributions subsection. Please ensure all authors are mentioned in this subsection alongside their individual contributions to the study/manuscript.

We would like to clarify that Rianne A.J. Esselink, Alain J. van Gool and Bas R. Bloem read the manuscript to ensure its intellectual content and commented on the final version. Their names were not specifically stated in the authors contributions section, but it was specified that all the authors contributed on this task, which include Rianne A.J. Esselink, Alain J. van Gool and Bas
R. Bloem, as well as the other co-authors that also had other roles in the study. For better clarity, all the names has been now added.

2. In your Funding section, please also state the role of the funding body in the design of the study; collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; and in writing the manuscript.

We are aware that some funding bodies contribute in the study research. However, the founding body of the European Union Horizon 2020 Programme, which is under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training acted only as a fellowship founder. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) are a set of major research fellowships created by the European Union/European Commission to support research in the European Research Area.

The BrainMatTrain consortium wrote the grant which contained the study design and it was accepted.

In line 303 the following sentence has been added: The funding body had no role in the design of the study; collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; and in writing the manuscript.

3. Please note that the BMC Series encourages authors to make their data freely and lastingly available to future readers. Please clarify why your Availability of data and materials subsection states that the data will only be available from 1 year till the 5th year after the publication date. This is not in accordance with BMC Submission guidelines. Are there any restrictions on making your data immediately available and to remain available indefinitely?

Thanks for reminding us the submission guidelines. We discussed the possibility of having the data available indefinitely after publication and the answer was positive. We added in the manuscript that the data will be available upon request after publication and indefinitely.

4. In the Ethics approval and consent to participate subsection please provide the full name of the ethics committee that approved your study.

We apology for not being more specific. The Central Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects in the region Arnhem-Nijmegen approved the study. This information has been added to the manuscript.

Yours sincerely,

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