Author’s response to reviews

Title: The mutation spectrum in familial versus sporadic congenital cataract based on next-generation sequencing

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Author’s response to reviews:

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Editors Sarah Gray & Gerard Clunn

Dear editors,

Thank you very much for your consideration of our manuscript, "The mutation spectrum in familial versus sporadic congenital cataract based on next-generation sequencing" (BOPH-D-20-00148R6).

We have provided point-by-point responses to the comments below.

We look forward to receiving your final decision.

Yours sincerely,

Yi Luo
Editor Comments:

Thank you for amending your manuscript according to our requests and for providing further clarification. However, there are a few minor revisions that are necessary before we can accept the manuscript for publication, please see below. Please accept our apologies for the inconvenience this was not addressed earlier.

1. Availability of Data and Materials
Please note that BMC mandates data deposition for the following:

- Protein sequences
- DNA and RNA sequences
- DNA and RNA sequencing data
- Genetic polymorphisms
- Linked genotype and phenotype data
- Macromolecular structure
- Microarray data (must be MIAME compliant)
- Crystallographic data for small molecules

As such, we ask that you please provide the relevant accession numbers if your data has been deposited into a data bank 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 links and accessions allow access to public data.

Your data availability statement can take the following form: “The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available in the [NAME] repository, [PERSISTENT WEB LINK OR ACCESSION NUMBER TO DATASETS]”.

If there are legal requirements preventing data deposition, please include a reference to the relevant legislation.

Reply: In accordance with The Regulations of People’s Republic of China on Administration of Human Genetic Resources promulgated on 28th May 2019, whoever shared the data of human genetic resources abroad through BGI Data Delivery System shall be examined and approved by the Human Genetic Resource Administration of China. (Line 265-266, Page 7) As it has not been approved, we cannot obtain and upload the raw sequencing data. However, we are certainly willing to package and upload the original analyzed data (excluding patient information), which has been attached in supplementary material.
2. Overlap

We note that there is some textual overlap between this submission and the following publications.

The below overlap exists in the Discussion, lines 222-230:


While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work.

Please re-phrase these sections to minimise overlap.

Reply: Thank you very much for providing us the overlap paragraph. We rephrased lines 222-230 (now Lines 222-288, Page 6), although the similar paragraph was still not found in the reference. (Zhai Y et al. Scientific reports. 2017.)