Author’s response to reviews

Title: The haplotype of UBE2L3 gene is associated with Hashimoto's thyroiditis in a Chinese Han population

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear editor Amar Agha and reviewers:

Thank you for your letter and for the reviewers’ comments concerning our manuscript (BEND-D-15-00053). Those comments are very valuable and helpful for revising and improving our paper. We have revised our manuscript according to the comments again. Revised portion are marked in red in the new version of manuscript.

Thank you very much for your consideration of publishing this manuscript in our respectable journal of BMC Endocrine Disorders. Please feel free to contact us if you have any other questions and need any further information about our manuscript.

Best wishes!

Yours sincerely,

Jin An Zhang (M.D. & ph.D)
Professor and director,
Reviewer reports:

Reviewer #1: The manuscript has improved to some extent. There are still issues that were not appropriately addressed.

1. This reviewer requests the deletion of table 2 which can be summarized briefly in the text (or can be moved to supplement with brief referral to it in the text).

   Response: Table 2 contained the results of genotype and allele distributions of HT and GD, which were the important results about our study, so we move it to supplementary table 2 and brief referral to it in the text. The changes were highlighted in red in line 14 on page 5 in the main text.

2. Section 2.2.2. : genotyping. 2 sentences max.

   Response: The changes were highlighted in red in line 15 and 16 on page 4 in the main text.

3. 2.2 and 3.1 : remove redundancies (HWE), which means delete 3.1 completely.

   Response: The changes were highlighted in red in line 8 on page 4 and line 13 on page 5 in the main text of the new version.

4. Shorten 3.2 to one sentence max. as it is again redundant.

   Response: The changes were highlighted in red in line 24-26 on page 5 in the main text.
5. Please note that collection of data is not sufficient to justify an authorship according to ISMJE policies. This reviewer suggests that author YFZ must be removed from author list.

Response: All authors participated in the different works in our study. In addition to patient recruitment and data collection, ZYF also collaborated on study design and statistical analysis. So we revised ZYF’s author contributions. The changes were highlighted in red in line 22 and 23 on page 8 in the main text.