Author’s response to reviews

Title: A functional polymorphism in the promoter of miR-17-92 cluster is associated with decreased risk of ischemic stroke

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear editor,

Thank you very much for your letter on 31 Jul 2019 enclosing the reviewer’s comments on our manuscript entitled “A functional polymorphism in the promoter of miR-17-92 cluster is associated with decreased risk of ischemic stroke” (MGNM-D-18-00369R1). We have revised the manuscript according to comments of editor and reviewer, and the amendments we made have been highlighted in red and were commented in the revised manuscript. Point by point responses to editor and reviewers’ comments are listed below. We hope that the revised version of the manuscript is now acceptable for publication in BMC Medical Genomics. We are looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,
Answer to Editor’s Comments:

1. While the lower expression of miR-19a-3p in IS patients is consistent with the literature, the effect of rs9301654 on miR-19a-3p, the effect of rs9301654 on IS, and the effect of miR-19a-3p on IS are not consistent. The sentences in the abstract as well as the discussion may be misleading to suggest they may be in the same direction and the SNP effect support the gene expression data, which is not the case. In the abstract, suggest to revise as follows: “We found the expression of miR-17-5p was significant higher while miR-19a-3p was significant lower in patient with IS compared with the control group (P<0.01). However, patients with rs9301654 protective GG or GA genotypes displayed lower level of miR-19a-3p as compared with the AA genotype (P<0.01)……. Our findings indicated that rs9301654 polymorphism in the promoter of miR-17-92 cluster and its respective gene expression did not demonstrate consistent association with IS in the Chinese population. Further studies such as gene-gene interaction are warrant to reveal the role of miR-19a and its regulatory genes in the etiology of IS”. Similarly, the discussion and conclusion should be revised accordingly.

Response to the Comment: Dear editor, the abstract has been revised as your suggestion, and the discussion and conclusion have also been revised accordingly. If there are still any problems, please feel free to contact us. Thanks for your suggestion.

2. The website https://www.ebi.ac.uk/gwas/home is correct. You can also try google “gwas catalog” which should also lead you to this website.

Response to the Comment: Dear editor, we have tried it again but still can’t success. We should note that we can visit the homepage of GWAS but can’t use the search engine. We also try google “gwas catalog” as your suggestion but fail finally. We are sorry we can not make the comparison at this time. Thanks for your suggestion.

Answer to Reviewer’s Comments

If improvements to the English language within your manuscript have been requested, you should have your manuscript reviewed by someone who is fluent in English. If you would like professional help in revising this manuscript, you can use any reputable English language editing service. We can recommend our affiliates Nature Research Editing Service (http://bit.ly/NRES_BS) and American Journal Experts (http://bit.ly/AJE_BS) for help with
English usage. Please note that use of an editing service is neither a requirement nor a guarantee of publication. Free assistance is available from our English language tutorial (https://www.springer.com/gb/authors-editors/authorandreviewertutorials/writinginenglish) and our Writing resources (http://www.biomedcentral.com/getpublished/writing-resources). These cover common mistakes that occur when writing in English.

Response to the Comment: Dear reviewer, thanks for your kind suggestion. English language within our manuscript have been carefully reviewed and revised by the help of someone who is good at English language. If it still can’t meet the requirement of the journal, we hope to get help from English language editing service. Thanks for your kind suggestion.