Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence and Spectrum of MLH1, MSH2, and MSH6 Pathogenic Germline Variants in Pakistani Colorectal Cancer Patients

Authors:

Muhammad Rashid (usmanr@skm.org.pk)
Humaira Naeemi (bslab1@skm.org.pk)
Noor Muhammad (bslab@skm.org.pk)
Asif Loya (asifloya@skm.org.pk)
Jan Lubiński (lubinski@sci.pam.szczecin.pl)
Anna Jakubowska (aniaj@sci.pum.edu.pl)
Muhammed Yusuf (aasim@skm.org.pk)

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Point-by-point response to the comments of the reviewers HCCP-D-18-00030R1

“Prevalence and Spectrum of MLH1, MSH2, and MSH6 Pathogenic Germline Variants in Pakistani Colorectal Cancer Patients”

Reviewer #1  Minor revision

General comments

Point 1: Check English grammar of the texts incorporated in the last revision.

English grammar of the texts incorporated in the last Revision is checked and revised by a native English speaker.

Point 2: The criteria described as stringent/less stringent used for the suspected-HNPCC subgroup (Page 5, Section: Methods: Study subjects) only include CRC, EC small bowel or urinary tract cancer. Do not include ovarian cancer?

Please note that the diagnostic criteria of “suspected-HNPCC” don’t include ovarian cancer. As we have cited in this manuscript, reference #18 (Kladny and Lubinski. Hered Cancer Clin Pract. 2008;6:99-102).

Point 3: In the classification of MMR gene variants section: Have you include InSIGHT database?
The classification of MMR gene variants is in accordance with the InSiGHT classification and we have included the InSIGHT database. (see Method section, page 7, 3rd paragraph, lines 18-19).

Reviewer #2: Accept