

## Format for ANSWERING REVIEWERS

April 22, 2015

Dear Editor,



Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 17544-review.doc).

**Title:** *NOD2/CARD15* gene mutations in North Algerian patients with inflammatory bowel disease.

**Author:** Boukercha Aziza, Mesbah-Amroun Hamida, Bouzidi Amira, Saoula Houria, Nakkemouche Mhamed, Roy Maryline, Hugot Jean-Pierre, Touil-Boukoffa Chafia.

**Name of Journal:** *World Journal of Gastroenterology*

**ESPS Manuscript NO:** 17544

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1 Format of table 1 has been updated into Tables 1 and 2 according to the suggestion of the editor.

2 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer N° 00073640

(1) In Page 4 at the bottom:

"The contribution of the *NOD2* gene polymorphisms to CD has been studied in Caucasian populations and the risk of CD conferred by heterozygous and homozygous/compound heterozygous mutant genotypes has been evaluated to be 1,5-3 fold and 10-44 fold, respectively [15-19]".

So, if you agree, we can write:

"In Caucasian populations, the contribution of the *NOD2* gene mutations to CD has been studied. The risk of CD has been evaluated to be 1,5-3 fold for heterozygous carriers and 10-44 fold for homozygous/compound heterozygous carriers [15-19]."

(2) In Page 8 first line:

In stead of, "From the first cohort including 770 IBD patients consulted for the first time in the Department of Gastroenterology at the Maillot University Hospital of Algiers, between January 1988 and December 2008, the incidence rate for IBD ranges from 0.5 to 2 cases/105/year, with an average rate of 1.2. From the second cohort including 132 IBD patients (86 CD and 46 UC), the mean age of the patients at diagnosis was 25.28±14.85 and 36,86±12,30 years for CD and UC, respectively."

we can write:

"In our study, we have analyzed two series of data. First, we have obtained retrospectively data from the Department of Gastroenterology's register. 770 IBD patients resident in Algiers, consulted between January 1988 and December 2008. Based on these data, we evaluated the incidence rate for IBD. It ranges from 0.5 to 2 cases/10<sup>5</sup>/year, with an average rate of 1.2. The second series of data was obtained prospectively between January 2011 and December 2013. Our cohort is composed of 132 IBD patients. We used this cohort to determine *NOD2* gene allele frequencies and to study genotype phenotype association".

(3) in the bottom of the Table 4 and 5:

Table 5: last two columns of Algeria lines contain sign - . Please, explain what this sign means

"To use less space in the manuscript, we opted for this rating: We designated by (-) a wild type allele, meaning absence of the frameshift mutation p.Leu1007fsinsC.

But if you want, we can change by writing WT or add precision under table.

In Table 5, (-) means that we were not able to calculate total *NOD2* allele frequency. Perhaps, it may be more correct to use (not determined, ND) instead of (-).

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Sincerely yours,



Mesbah-Amroun Hamida, Phd,

Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular Biology (LBCM),

Faculty of Biological Sciences (FSB),

University of Sciences and Technology Houari Boumediene (USTHB),

BP32, Bab-Ezzouar, 16111, Algiers, Algeria.

[amrounhamida@yahoo.com](mailto:amrounhamida@yahoo.com).

Telephone and fax: +213-7-79387611. Fax: +213-21-247217.