

ANSWERING REVIEWERS



August 01, 2013

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 3878-review.doc).

Title: X chromosome inactivation and autoimmune diseases. A Editorial.

Author: Ghazi chabchoub

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Rheumatology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 3878

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

1 We rewrite a summary of less than 100 words

2 We revised the Heading

3 We reformatted all the reference numbers

4 Revision has been made according to the suggestions of the reviewer

(Reviewer 01236209)

- As it was suggested by the reviewer, we added a paragraph in the third section to explain how XCI contribute to the development of AID.

-The observed association between XCI and AID could very well be due to genetic confounding. The XCI process is under genetic control (Kristiansen et al, 2005) and it has been linked to loci on the X chromosome (Naumova et al. 1998). The X chromosome may also be of interest in AID because several genes crucial for the maintenance of immune function and tolerance are located on this chromosome (Lleo et al. 2008). Clearly, association between genes on the X chromosome and AID has been demonstrated (Barbesino et al. 1998 & Jawaheer et al. 2001). Therefore, it is likely that the association between XCI and AID is not causal but due of the inheritance of common X-linked susceptibility genes. It appears premature to conclude that skewed XCI is associated with female prevalent AID. Further direct evidence is needed for the involvement of XCI mosaicism in the production of self-reactive T cells.

(Reviewer 00214265)

-As it was required by the reviewer, we added recent publications.

-We agree with the reviewer, we corrected 'such' by 'such as' in the abstract, 'relation ship' by 'relationship' in the second section and 'with this disease' by 'with this disease a well' in the third section.

-As it was suggested by the reviewer, we corrected the format of references.

(Reviewer 02446312)

- As it was suggested by the reviewer, we added recent publications.
- We agree with the reviewer, we corrected 'such' by 'such as' in the abstract, 'relation ship' by 'relationship' in the second section.
- As it was required by the reviewer, we changed the last sentence in the conclusion.

3 References and typesetting were corrected

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

Sincerely yours,



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