



February 19, 2014

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 7683-revised.doc).

Title: Expression Quantitative Trait Analyses to Identify Causal Genetic Variants for Type 2 Diabetes Susceptibility

Author: Swapan Kumar Das, Neeraj Kumar Sharma

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Diabetes*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 7683

We thank the reviewer for his kind appreciation of the strengths of our manuscript. The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. Included full contact address for the authors
2. Included PMID and DOI for the references and formatted to fit the journal style
3. Included revised word file of the manuscript
4. Included Table in word table format.
5. Included 300DPI JPEG files for the figures.
6. Minor revisions have been made and additional references added according to the suggestions of the reviewer as follows (changes are marked in blue font):
(I) As suggested by **reviewer 02764119**:
(A) We have revised the figure legend and figure-5.

(B) We have now included a few more specific examples of eSNP-eQTL relationship. List of 68 SNPs (point f, for figure 2) are already included in our original manuscript published in American Journal of Human Genetics (2012, 91:466-477), so it will not be possible to reprint that table. We have already discussed details of key *cis* eSNPs in the text (only two of these SNPs show evidence for *cis*-eQTL and rest are *trans*-eQTL). We

have included examples only in cases where authors of the original research article discussed about the importance of specific findings.

(II) As suggested by **reviewer 02470206**: We have highlighted the availability of software developed in “R” programming language platform for analysis of co-expression network related statistics (e.g. WGCNA) in section 7. We have already discussed about other eQTL analysis software in last two paragraphs of section 3.

(III) As suggested by other three reviewers (Reviewer **02446586, 02483892 and 00039368**) we revised reference style to fit journal format.

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

Sincerely yours,

Swapan Kumar Das, M.Sc., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor,
Section on Endocrinology and Metabolism,
Department of Internal Medicine,
Wake Forest School of Medicine,
Medical Center Boulevard,
Wake Forest Baptist Health, NRC Building,
Office#E159, Lab#206
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27157,
Telephone (office): 336-713-6057
Telephone (Lab):336-713-6528/29
Fax: 336-713-7255
Email: sdas@wakehealth.edu