Author’s response to reviews

Title: Common subclinical hypothyroidism during Whipple's disease

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To Senior Editor
BMC Infectious Diseases
Marseille, March 3rd, 2014

Dear Editor,

We would like to submit our manuscript entitled “Common subclinical hypothyroidism during Whipple’s disease” including the revisions required prior to editorial assessment, as a research article to “BMC Infectious Diseases” (MS: 1456010411216861). Please find below our point by point responses.

“Dear Prof. Raoult,

Thank you for your recent submission to BMC Infectious Diseases. Before we can proceed with peer review we will need you to make some changes to your manuscript. We would be very grateful if you could make these changes promptly, as we cannot start the peer review process until we have received a version containing the changes.

ETHICS STATEMENT:

Research involving human subjects, human material, or human data, must have been performed in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki (http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html) and must have been approved by an appropriate ethics committee. Experimental research on vertebrates or any regulated invertebrates must comply with institutional, national, or international guidelines, and where available should have been approved by an appropriate ethics committee. A statement detailing what ethical approval has been obtained, including the name of the ethics committee and the reference number where appropriate, must appear in all manuscripts. If a study has been granted an exemption from requiring ethics approval or does not require approval, this should also be detailed in the manuscript (including the name of the ethics committee that granted the exemption). For all research involving human subjects, informed consent to participate in the study should be obtained from participants (or their parent or guardian in the case of children under 16) and a statement to this effect should appear in the

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manuscript. Please refer to our Editorial Policies for full details of the ethical requirements for the journal: [http://www.biomedcentral.com/about/editorialpolicies#Ethics](http://www.biomedcentral.com/about/editorialpolicies#Ethics).

--> In addition, could you please clarify if the patient samples were taken as part of normal care.

As recommended, we added Line 148:

“Ethical statement

Informed consent was obtained from all the participating patients in the study.

The study was conducted as part of normal care, without supplementary patient’s samples. The study was approved by the Ethics Committee of the Institut Fédératif de Recherche IFR48, Faculty of Medicine, Marseille France (agreement number 13-028).”

All the authors have no conflict of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Pr Didier Raoult, corresponding author