



## Letter

**Response to commentary article: “The association between Interleukin-1 $\beta$  gene rs1143634 polymorphism and the risk of breast cancer by Bei Wang, Fenlai Yuan”**


## ARTICLE INFO

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## ABSTRACT

This is a response to the commentary article entitled “The association between Interleukin-1 $\beta$  gene rs1143634 polymorphism and the risk of breast cancer” by Bei Wang, Fenlai Yuan. We completely agree with Wang and Yuan that there is significant deviation of HWE in control subjects for IL-1beta exon 5 + 3954 polymorphism. Therefore, the apparent genetic association in IL-1beta exon 5 + 3954 polymorphism must be used cautiously for further interpretation.

We are greatly thankful to Bei Wang, Fenlai Yuan for kindly noticing the error in our report on polymorphic variations in IL-1, IL-6 and IL-10 genes in breast cancer patients [1]. We all are aware that deviations of Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) in control subjects can have important consequences in genetic association studies [2]. We completely agree with Wang and Yuan that there is significant deviation of HWE in control subjects for IL-1beta exon 5 + 3954 polymorphism. While deviations may not mean loss of significant association, yet this can significantly disrupt the nature of association. Deviations of HWE can be attributed to multiple reasons [3] and apparent genetic association in such cases must be used cautiously for further interpretation.

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## Conflict of interest

None of the authors has any conflict of interest to declare.

## References

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