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ERROR DETECTED IN PUBLISHED LOD SCORES

To the Editor: In the recent paper by Kondo and Hamaguchi [1], there appears to be an error in the calculation of lod scores between the *ESD* and *LCP1* loci. Table 1 reports a lod score of 2.114 ($\theta = 0$) for family D. However, because phase cannot be unequivocally assigned in either the parents or grandparents, the correct lod score (based on the published pedigree) is 1.806 as calculated using both the computer programs LIPED [2] and LINKAGE [3] (the correct scores for the other θ values are 1.584, 1.351, 0.863, 0.401, and 0.093 for .05, .10, .20, .30, and .40, respectively). Either an incorrect number of informative events was used to calculate these values or phase was erroneously assumed to be unambiguous. It is fortunate that these errors, although reducing the summed lod scores, do not change the conclusion of close linkage between *ESD* and *LCP1*.

Although lod scores for simple pedigrees can be relatively simple to calculate, particularly at a recombination fraction of 0.00, and tables to aid such calculations exist, I strongly urge the use of computer programs such as LIPED and LINKAGE even for simple pedigrees in order to reduce such possible errors of calculation.

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