

Reviewers' Comments:

Reviewer #1:

Remarks to the Author:

Luo et al. present an interesting paper describing human genetic susceptibility to early progression to active TB. The study is fairly well powered, especially for an ID GWAS, with approximately 4000 subjects, but what really sets it apart is the careful phenotype assignment. In contrast to previous GWAS of TB, this study using a longitudinal design, allowing for cases who were early progressors and controls to be exposed household contacts who did not develop active TB. This is a novel, labor-intensive, study design, so this manuscript could help inform design for future ID GWAS. The authors go on to make h^2 estimates, identify an apparent significant association, and attempt some *in silico* and *in vitro* functional validation. Unfortunately, while the authors are to be commended for their innovative design, the results are not particularly compelling or convincing and results are overstated.

Major:

- 1) The claim of greater h^2 in early progression compared to TB risk may be an overstatement. For early progression, the estimate was made with GCTA while for TB risk the estimate was made using a different dataset with LD score regression. What is the estimate for early progression based on LD score regression? In addition to the different methodologies for the 2 estimates, the populations are different as well— h^2 can be different between the populations for different reasons, including prevalence differences as described by the authors around line 330. Thus, this difference may not reflect an actual difference in the biology/genetic architecture of the traits. Finally, given the overlap of the estimates considering the SE's, is the claim even valid as stated? While the overall importance of the claim is debatable, the fact that the authors stressed this finding in the Abstract, requires that the claim be subjected to a greater level of scrutiny.
- 2) For similar reasons, the claim in line 135 of greater h^2 comparing 22.1 vs. 21.2% also seems dubious. Is the "larger" h^2 an important claim to make based on a <1% increase in h^2 with the given SE's in the estimates?
- 3) While replication is the gold-standard for GWAS studies, this threshold may be unreasonable given the lack of availability of such a unique dataset. The authors do conduct a second analysis, a stratified case analysis, which provides some additional validation, though I would have appreciated some discussion on how independent the results of this analysis should be considered.
- 4) It would be beneficial to provide better calibration of significance. $P < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ assumes 1 million independent tests. Phenotype permutation analysis would be useful to determine an empirical threshold for significance (as in Kanai et al 2016 J Human Genetics). Kanai et al. demonstrated with 1000 Genomes that for African populations this may not be stringent enough, while for admixed American populations it may be too stringent—so such an analysis could actually suggest greater confidence in the association given that it barely exceeds currently used $p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ threshold.
- 5) In Figure 2, it appears that there is more admixture in the Controls vs. Cases based on the plots. Can the authors comment on that and how it may affect their conclusions?
- 6) The attempts to narrow down the functional SNP and perform functional followup are not convincing. Why IRF1 (vs. other IFN-responsive TFs or other TFs involved in inflammation and immunity) should be the focus of efforts here is not clear. The IMPACT analysis is done using macrophages, but the EMSA is done using Jurkat (a T cell line), and the luciferase reporters HEK293 (embryonic kidney). Why this multi-cell-type approach was taken is a bit puzzling. Transcriptional regulation and eQTLs can often be shared among different cell types, but they state that the IMPACT analysis is cell-type specific.
- 7) EMSA analysis. No indication of the number of biological replicates, quantification of signals, statistical analysis are given. Based on the amount of unbound sample, some of the differences may simply be due to unequal loading. Quantification of the EMSA signals from multiple experiments should help the investigators determine whether any of the signal is real. They may also want to rerun the IMPACT analysis based on T cells as the cell type instead of macrophages.

- 8) Luciferase assays show that none of the associated SNPs appear to affect expression in HEK293 cells. This should be repeated in the cell type where they have noted a difference in IRF1 occupancy—Jurkat and/or macrophage cells.
- 9) While a causal SNP is not convincingly identified, possible causal genes are given even less attention, thus limiting the impact of the manuscript in understanding TB pathogenesis.

Minor:

- 1) Typos throughout should be corrected, such as italicization of “exposure” in the title.
- 2) The novelty of conducting a genetic study of Peruvians may be overstated. A pubmed of “GWAS Peru” revealed several other studies that have incorporated Peruvian subjects. The authors should either scale back this claim or indicate more explicitly what differentiates this study from these previous studies.
- 3) Unclear what this sentence means at line 285: “Sex and age were included as fixed effects to correct for population stratification (Supplementary Figure 2).”
- 4) Overall, I think the manuscript would benefit if it weren't so compactly written.

Reviewer #3:

Remarks to the Author:

Luo and colleagues describe a GWAS of early TB progression in a Peruvian population. The study rationale, methods and results are clearly presented. The authors report a genetic locus at 3q23 as being associated with early TB progression. The authors highlight the relative paucity of validated infectious-disease genetic susceptibility loci, as compared to other complex traits, and advocate denser phenotyping as means to overcome the difficulty identifying infection-associated genetic variation.

The genetic association study design is excellent. The study participants are very well-phenotyped, which benefits the GWAS. The conduct and presentation of the GWAS itself is extremely robust, and I only have minor comments relating to that. However, the lack of independent replication of the GWAS findings makes the TB: 3q23 association interesting but preliminary. The particular design of the GWAS may well make replication in independent cohorts challenging, but in the absence of more convincing functional data, the genetic association needs to be replicated.

Major Points

1. The study does not include independent replication of TB progression susceptibility at the 3q23 locus. While I accept that the phenotype of TB progression would be challenging to replicate exactly, might it be possible to enrich for early progressors by restricting the Icelandic/Russian replication analysis to individuals under 40 years?
2. The authors state in the abstract that “early TB progression has a stronger genetic basis than population-wide TB susceptibility”. While I agree that the point estimate for heritability is higher for TB progression, the 95% confidence intervals for SNP heritability of TB progression and TB per se appear to overlap. A further limitation is that these estimates are derived by different means (were genotype level data not available for the Russian dataset?). The estimate of TB progression heritability merits reporting, but the interpretation needs to be more considered. It also merits some discussion that these estimates are sensitive to TB prevalence (as demonstrated in methods lines 329-331).
3. With regard to the case-only analysis it would be interesting to see the rs73226617 allele frequencies in clustered molecular fingerprint cases vs. unique molecular fingerprint cases vs. controls. Might it be informative to present a Bayesian analysis comparing progressors, reactivators vs shared controls, asking whether the most likely model is indeed an association restricted to the progressors?

4. The functional data highlights that the locus sits in a regulatory region in a plausible cell type, but does little to move forward our understanding of the biology underlying any TB association at 3q23. At a minimum, eQTL data supporting a cis association would be very helpful advancing our understanding of any disease association.

Minor Points

1. The sentence "We quantified.." on lines 97-98 seems redundant.
2. The study reports using SNP2HLA in the methods, but these results don't appear to be in the results. It would be of interest to report the associated classical HLA allele/amino acids at the class I locus.
3. Line 284-285: "Sex and age were included as fixed effects to correct for population stratification (Supplementary Figure 2)." The supplementary figure this refers to is presumably S3? Also I assume that this sentence is missing inclusion of principal components 1 and 2 (or was the GRM alone use to control for population structure)? Either seems appropriate, this just wasn't clear to me.
3. Line 241-2 methods – it reads as if cases in the main GWAS had to have an M.tb isolate shared with another case: "(2) index patients whose M. tb isolates shared a molecular fingerprint with isolates from other enrolled patients". But then why are there cases with unique M. tb molecular fingerprints in the case-only analysis?
4. The (negative) rare variant result should be reported in the body of the main text.

Overall summary statement

1 In looking over the thoughtful and carefully written reviews, we see that both reviewers are
2 largely in sync in the evaluation of our manuscript on human TB progression. Both reviewers
3 write highly positive and similar opinions with regard to the strengths of our submission as well
4 as specific suggestions for further validation. Specifically, they assess the core human subjects
5 design as being excellent, describing it as careful, novel, labor-intensive and robust. Beyond the
6 specific conclusions relating to a disease of worldwide importance, the reviewers acknowledge
7 that this careful study design and outcome could inform general approaches to infectious
8 disease GWAS in ways that overcome the difficulties in identifying infection-associated genetic
9 variation humans.

10
11 The reviews generally accept that the key claims outlined in the abstract relating to
12 population-specific genetic tools, quantitation of genetic heritability and identification of a novel
13 risk locus on 3q23, while also pushing for a secondary validation and more information about
14 candidate genes. We answer the latter issues in the point-by-point response and the revised
15 manuscript, which contains 13 new and revised figures, including

- 16
17 1. Statistical validations of main claims in the manuscript.
- 18 ● **Supplementary Figure 6.** Heritability estimation using different methods (LDSC and
 - 19 GCTA) for TB progression and population-wide TB susceptibility.
 - 20 ● **Supplementary Figure 9.** Stratified cases with MAF of the top associated variant.
 - 21 ● **Supplementary Figure 10-11.** Testing independence between the primary the
 - 22 secondary association studies.
 - 23 ● **Supplementary Figure 12.** New association analysis of the HLA region.
 - 24 ● **Supplementary Figure 19.** Genome-wide association study with Native American
 - 25 ancestry proportion as an additional covariate in the linear mixed model.
 - 26
- 27 2. In silico search for existing evidence of promoter/enhancer activities that suggest
28 ATP1B3 as a potential causal gene highlighted by the identified novel risk locus.
- 29 ● **Figure 3e.** Predicted cell-state regulatory activity among each variant in 15 different cell
 - 30 types and cell states using IMPACT.

- 31 • **Supplementary Figure 15.** Promoter activity suggested by Promoter capture Hi-C.
32 • **Supplementary Figure 16.** chromQTL signals identified in the Blueprint project.
33 • **Supplementary Figure 18.** Enhancer activity in primary monocytes and THP1 cell lines
34 suggested by ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq.
35
36 3. New functional validations.
37 • **Supplementary Figure 14.** Updated EMSA experiment in THP1 cell line.
38 • **Supplementary Figure 16-17.** Overview of the CRISPR/Cas9 experiment and
39 differential expression test.
40

Specific comments

Reviewer #1 (Remarks to the Author):

41 Luo et al. present an interesting paper describing human genetic
42 susceptibility to early progression to active TB. The study is fairly
43 well powered, especially for an ID GWAS, with approximately 4000
44 subjects, but what really sets it apart is the careful phenotype
45 assignment. In contrast to previous GWAS of TB, this study using a
46 longitudinal design, allowing for cases who were early progressors and
47 controls to be exposed household contacts who did not develop active
48 TB. This is a novel, labor-intensive, study design, so this manuscript
49 could help inform design for future ID GWAS. The authors go on to make
50 h2 estimates, identify an apparent significant association, and
51 attempt some in silico and in vitro functional validation.
52 Unfortunately, while the authors are to be commended for their
53 innovative design, the results are not particularly compelling or
54 convincing and results are overstated.
55

56 **Response:** We appreciate the assessment that our unique study design and its potentially
57 broad impact that could change general approaches to infectious disease genetic studies, which
58 have particular complexities related to host and pathogen interactions.

Major:

59 1) The claim of greater h^2 in early progression compared to TB risk
60 may be an overstatement. For early progression, the estimate was made
61 with GCTA while for TB risk the estimate was made using a different
62 dataset with LD score regression. What is the estimate for early
63 progression based on LD score regression? In addition to the different
64 methodologies for the 2 estimates, the populations are different as
65 well— h^2 can be different between the populations for different
66 reasons, including prevalence differences as described by the authors
67 around line 330. Thus, this difference may not reflect an actual
68 difference in the biology/genetic architecture of the traits. Finally,
69 given the overlap of the estimates considering the SE's, is the claim
70 even valid as stated? While the overall importance of the claim is
71 debatable, the fact that the authors stressed this finding in the
72 Abstract, requires that the claim be subjected to a greater level of
73 scrutiny.

74

Response:

76 We thank the Reviewer for pointing out that the different methods for estimating genetic
77 heritability may have accounted for the differences between the reported heritability of
78 progression compared to general TB susceptibility. We noted that LDSC is not suitable for
79 admixed populations, we therefore requested access to the raw imputed genotype data from the
80 Russian cohort and applied the same GCTA analysis that we used to analyze the data from the
81 Peruvian cohort. The new analysis obtained a h_g^2 estimates of 0.178 ± 0.02 (compared to
82 0.155 ± 0.04 using LDSC). This is, indeed, not statistically different ($p=0.68$) from the h_g^2 for
83 early TB progression (0.212 ± 0.08). We have now **removed** the claim that TB progression has
84 a stronger genetic basis than population-wide TB susceptibility from the abstract:

85 “Compared to the reported h_g^2 of genome-wide TB susceptibility (15.5%), this result
86 indicates early TB progression has a stronger genetic basis than population-wide TB
87 susceptibility.”

88

89 And replaced it with:

90 “This degree of heritability suggests TB progression has a strong genetic basis, and is
91 comparable to traits with well-established genetic bases.”

92

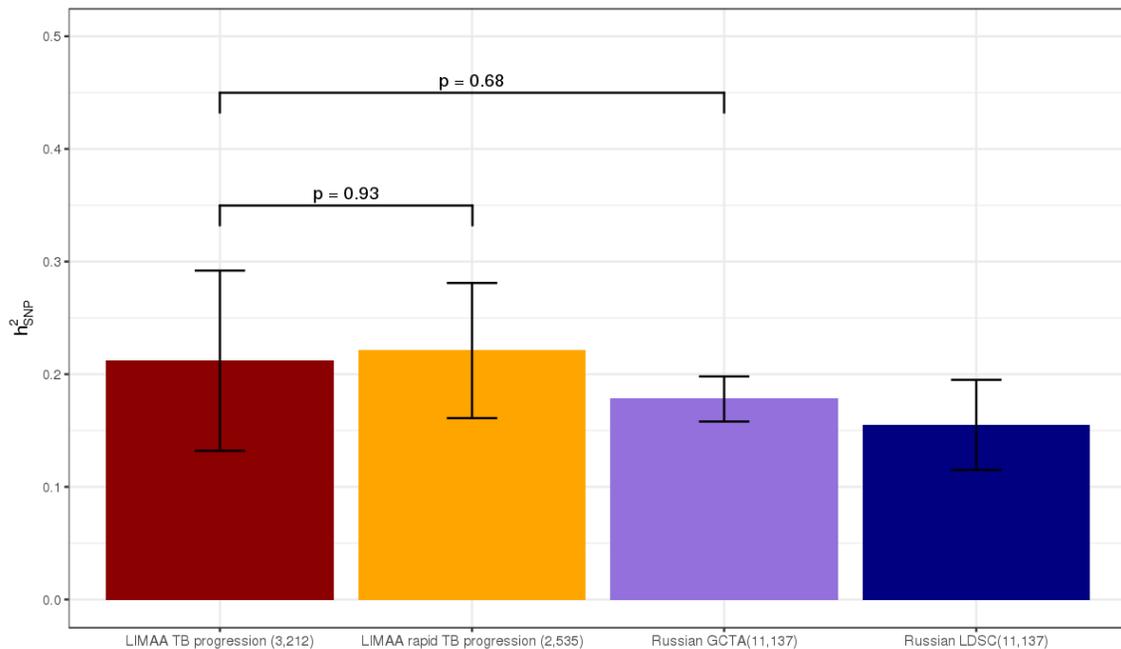
93 We also added the standard error (0.08) when reporting h_g^2 . We then edited the following text
94 to describe these results in the main text in the heritability section:

95 “To compare the genetic heritability between early TB progression and population-wide
96 TB susceptibility, we subsequently obtained genotypes from a previous TB study
97 conducted in Russia with 11,137 individuals¹. Using GCTA, we estimated the h_g^2 of
98 population-wide TB susceptibility to be 17.8% (s.e.=0.02, $P = 2.85 \times 10^{-21}$) with
99 assumed prevalence of 0.04². Even though the point estimate of h_g^2 of TB progression is
100 greater than that of population-wide TB risk in the Russian study, these estimates are not
101 statistically different from each other (two tailed $P = 0.68$, **Supplementary Figure 6**).
102 Regardless, the strong host genetic basis of TB progression suggests that larger
103 progression studies may be well-powered to discover additional variants.”

104

105 In addition, we added a new **Supplementary Figure 6**, to summarize and help readers better
106 understand these heritability estimates:

107



108 **Supplementary Figure 6. Heritability estimates of TB progression and population-wide TB**
109 **susceptibility.** Each bar plot represents the genetic heritability estimates (h_g^2) based on
110 different cohort definition and statistical method that had been employed as described in the
111 x-axis. The number of samples used in each estimation is reported in the bracket.
112

113 2) For similar reasons, the claim in line 135 of greater h^2 comparing
114 22.1 vs. 21.2% also seems dubious. Is the "larger" h^2 an important
115 claim to make based on a <1% increase in h^2 with the given SE's in the
116 estimates?
117

118 **Response:**

119 We thank the Reviewer for pointing out the statistically non-significant differences ($p=0.93$)
120 between these two point estimates. We **removed** the claim of a 'larger', and only reported the
121 statistics of h_g^2 estimates. As per **Comment #1**, we added a new **Supplementary Figure 6** to
122 address this concern.
123

124 3) While replication is the gold-standard for GWAS studies, this
125 threshold may be unreasonable given the lack of availability of such a

126 unique dataset. The authors do conduct a second analysis, a stratified
127 case analysis, which provides some additional validation, though I
128 would have appreciated some discussion on how independent the results
129 of this analysis should be considered.

130

131 **Response:**

132 We agree regarding the need for validation and that an independent test would increase the
133 credibility of our stratified case analysis. In revision, we further investigated whether there is a
134 correlated effect size between case-control and case-only analysis. If these association studies
135 are statistically dependent, then we would expect a correlation between reported effect sizes.
136 Instead, the correlation between these two analyses is negligible (Pearson correlation = 0.014,
137 new **Supplementary Figure 10**), suggesting an independent relationship.

138

139 Next, to rigorously assess the significance of our reported effect size, we conducted a
140 permutation test within the case-only analysis. Here, we randomly permute the within-case
141 status (early progressor versus others) 10,000 times. This analysis concludes that the observed
142 OR of 1.09 has a P-value of 0.017 (new **Supplementary Figure 11**) compared to null. These
143 results confirm that our secondary analysis is independent from the primary analysis and have a
144 nominal association with early progression after recent exposure to *M.tb*.

145

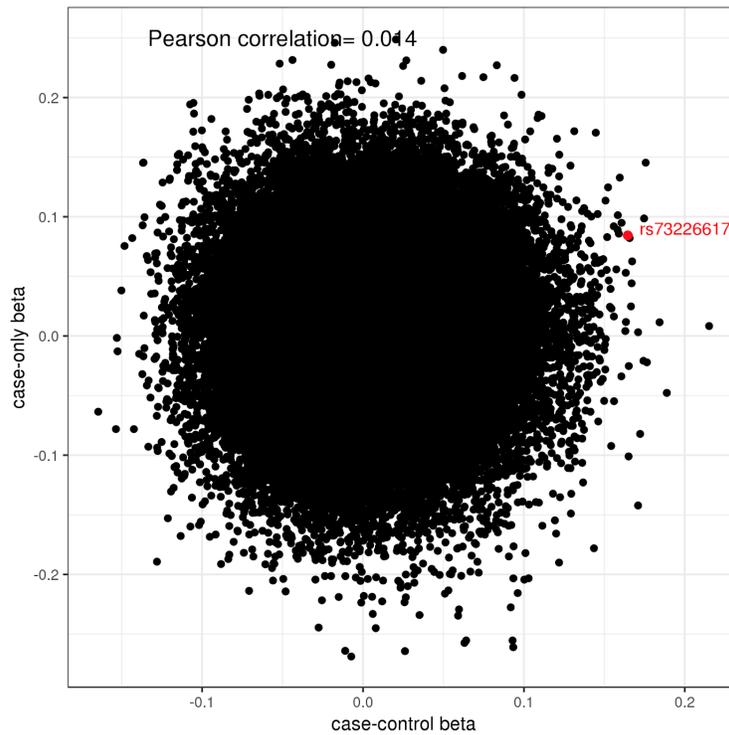
146 We have added the text to reflect this independence of our stratified case analysis:

147 “To assess the independence of the stratified cases compared to the overall
148 case-control analysis, we first compared reported effect sizes in both analyses and
149 observed a low Pearson correlation ($r = 0.014$, **Supplementary Figure 10**). To test the
150 significance of the reported association, we performed a permutation analysis, where we
151 randomly permuted the case/control status in the stratified analysis. After permuting for
152 10,000 times, the observed OR (1.09) has a P-value of 0.017 (**Supplementary Figure**
153 **11**). “

154

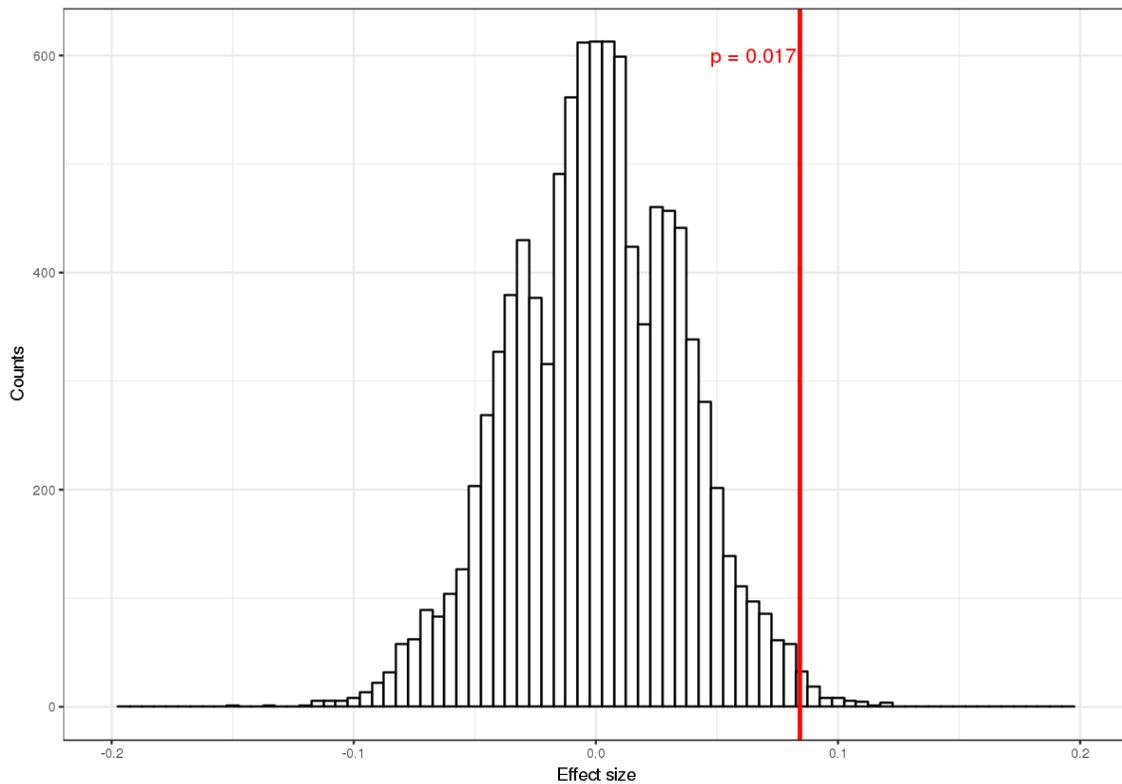
155 In addition, we have added two new **Supplementary Figures 10** and **11** to address this
156 concern.

157



159 **Supplementary Figure 10. Correlation between effect size (beta) between case-control**
160 **(active TB cases versus latent TB controls) analysis and within case (early progressors**
161 **versus other TB cases).** Each dot in the plot represents a genetic variant, if the two tests are
162 dependent, then there should be a non-zero correlation between two betas. Instead, we
163 observed a Pearson correlation of 0.014, suggesting the secondary, within case-only, analysis
164 can be considered as independent test compared to the primary (case-control) analysis. The
165 SNP (rs73226617) highlighted in red is the top associated risk variant.

166



167

168 **Supplementary Figure 11. Random permutation test of individuals in early and other**
169 **progressors among active TB cases.** The distribution of effect size was generated by
170 randomly assigning early and other status among 2,160 TB cases. The red line in the panel
171 marks the actual effect size observed. We conclude the observed OR of 1.09 has a P-value of
172 0.017 compared to null.

173

174 4) It would be beneficial to provide better calibration of
175 significance. $P < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ assumes 1 million independent tests. Phenotype
176 permutation analysis would be useful to determine an empirical
177 threshold for significance (as in Kanai et al 2016 J Human Genetics).
178 Kanai et al. demonstrated with 1000 Genomes that for African
179 populations this may not be stringent enough, while for admixed
180 American populations it may be too stringent—so such an analysis could

181 actually suggest greater confidence in the association given that it
182 barely exceeds currently used $p < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ threshold.

183

184 **Response:**

185 We thank the Reviewer for pointing out the differences in the statistical thresholds for
186 significance of associations in the GWAS study, as well as the useful suggestions for an
187 alternative/more appropriate genome-wide significance threshold for admixed population.
188 Following the same permutation strategy as presented in *Kanai et al. 2016* for the 85 Peruvian
189 individuals included in the 1000 Genomes Project, we estimated the empirical genome-wide
190 significance threshold in this population group to be 1.78×10^{-7} assuming ~9.6 million variants
191 with MAF $\geq 1\%$. Our top associated signal rs73226617 ($P = 3.93 \times 10^{-8}$) becomes more
192 significantly associated with TB progression. We subsequently added the more appropriate
193 significant threshold in **Figure 3** and added the additional reference. We also replaced the
194 original $P < 5 \times 10^{-8}$ in the abstract to $P = 3.93 \times 10^{-8}$, so that the readers know the exact
195 P-value in the association test. We have also added the following line to the methods:

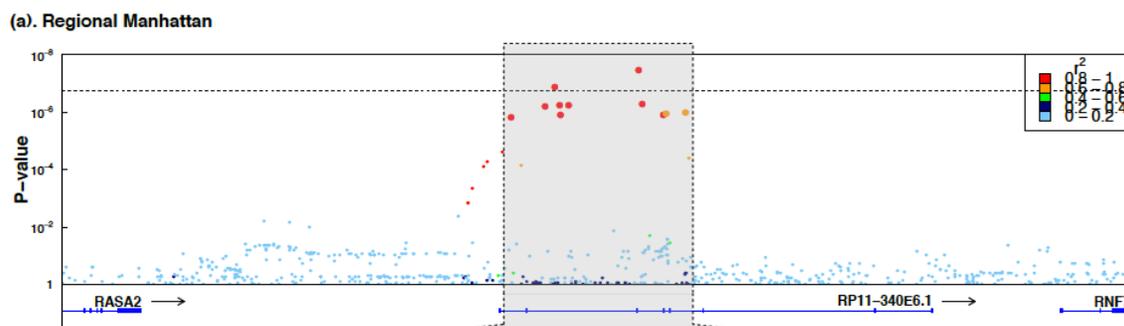
196 "To determine an appropriate genome-wide significant threshold for Peruvian
197 populations, we followed the permutation strategy proposed by *Kanai et al. 2016*³, and
198 considered a variant is significantly associated with TB progression, if it has a P-value
199 smaller than 1.78×10^{-7} ."

200

201 We further updated **Figure 3a** to incorporate this new genome-wide significant threshold:

202

203



204 **Figure 3. Genome-wide association details of the 3q23 locus.** (a) A regional association plot
205 of the 3q23 locus including all genotyped and imputed variants. [The horizontal line indicates the](#)
206 [genome-wide significant threshold at \$1.78 \times 10^{-7}\$ for Peruvian populations³.](#)

207 5) In Figure 2, it appears that there is more admixture in the
208 Controls vs. Cases based on the plots. Can the authors comment on that
209 and how it may affect their conclusions?

210

211 **Response:**

212 We thank the Reviewer for having noticed the ancestry differences between cases and controls.
213 In the original linear mixed model presented, we included only sex and age as fixed effects. To
214 test whether the differences in admixture percentage between cases and controls affect our
215 genome-wide association studies, we included the inferred Native American percentage from
216 the ADMIXTURE analysis (K=6) as an additional covariate in revision. Overall, inclusion of the
217 Native American ancestry proportion as an additional covariate in the model did not affect the
218 main conclusions (new **Supplementary Figure 19**). We further reported the association results
219 of the risk locus after condition on their ancestral proportion in the updated **Supplementary**
220 **Table 6**.

221

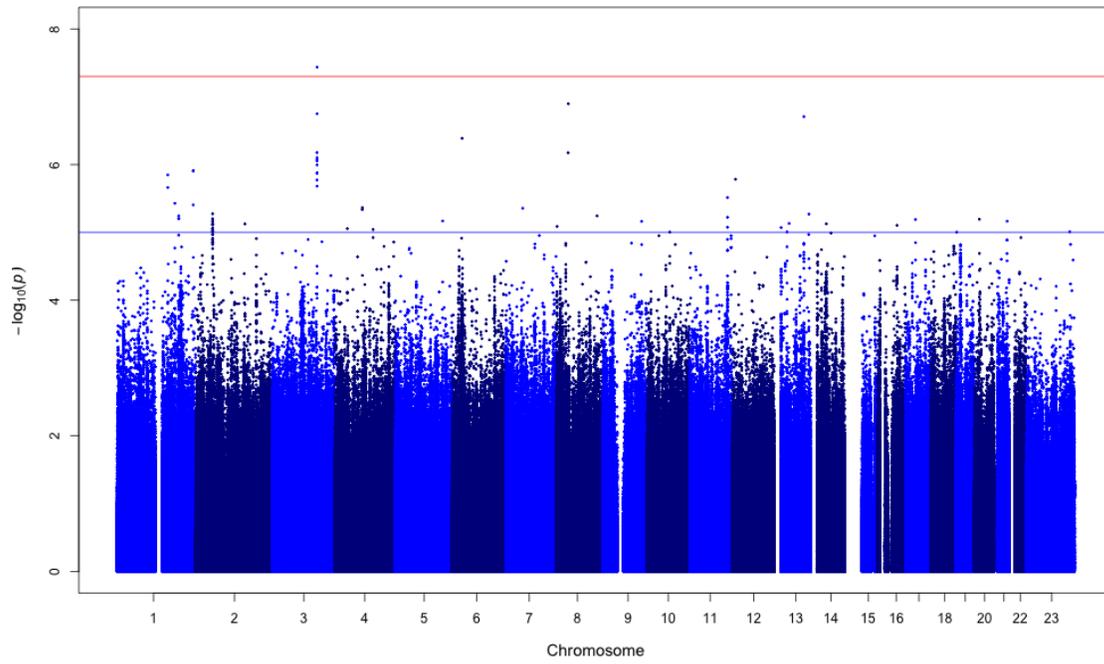
222 We added the following text in the Method section to specifically address this concern:

223 “To control for the potential effect of ancestry differences between cases and controls
224 and the robustness of our reported findings, we tested our linear mixed model adding
225 Native American ancestry inferred from ADMIXTURE analysis (K=6) as a covariate. We
226 observed similar association strengths genome-wide (**Supplementary Figure 19**) and in
227 our reported top associations (**Supplementary Table 6**). This result supports that our
228 reported associations are independent of individual ancestral proportions.”

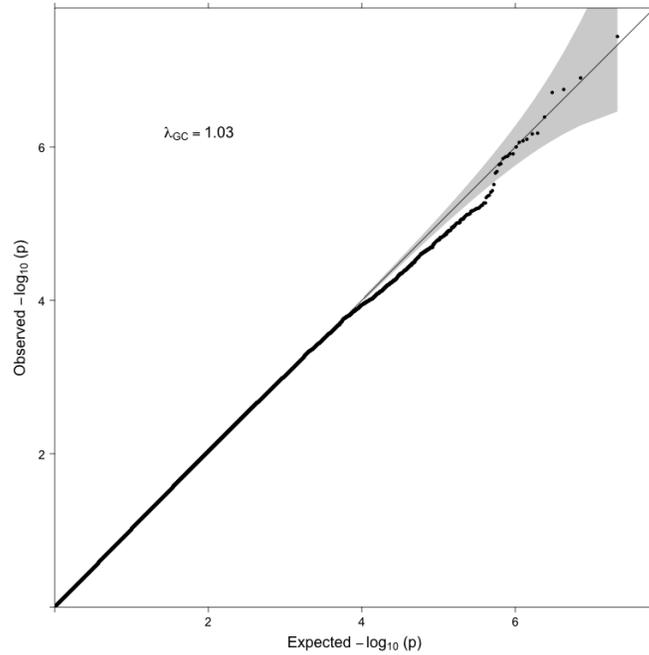
229

230 We added the following new **Supplementary Figure 19** to support our claim:

231



232



233 **Supplementary Figure 19. Manhattan and QQ-plots of TB progression including the**
234 **Native American proportions as a covariate in the linear mixed model. Manhattan (top) and**

235 QQ (bottom) plot showing genome-wide association study for single common variants
236 (6,035,269, MAF \geq 1%). P-values were reported from the linear mixed model using the genetic
237 relatedness matrix (GRM) as random effects. Sex, age and Native American proportions
238 inferred from the ADMIXTURE analysis (K=6) were included as fixed effects. The diagonal black
239 line in all QQ-plots is $y = x$, and the grey shapes show 95% confidence interval under the null. λ
240 s are the genome-wide inflation factors based on all tested statistics.

241

242 Detailed statistics of the 11 top associated variants were also reported in **Supplementary Table**
243 **6**:

244

rsID	effect size	standard error	P-value
rs73239724	0.149	0.031	2.08E-06
rs73226608	0.154	0.031	8.78E-07
rs58538713	0.162	0.031	1.78E-07
rs11710569	0.155	0.031	8.30E-07
rs11714221	0.149	0.031	1.68E-06
rs189348793	0.155	0.031	7.90E-07
rs73226617	0.166	0.030	3.65E-08
rs148722713	0.156	0.031	6.65E-07
rs73226619	0.151	0.031	1.34E-06
rs112304167	0.166	0.034	1.01E-06
rs146526750	0.169	0.035	1.32E-06

245

246 We are separately interested in whether ancestry differences for individuals overall
247 genome-wide may be associated with TB progression. There is some precedent for this in the
248 literature⁴⁻⁸. However, these differences can be confounded by socioeconomic and other
249 economic factors causing subtle stratification. We are now looking at this specific issue in a
250 separate and detailed study.

251

252 6) The attempts to narrow down the functional SNP and perform
253 functional followup are not convincing. Why IRF1 (vs. other
254 IFN-responsive TFs or other TFs involved in inflammation and immunity)
255 should be the focus of efforts here is not clear. The IMPACT analysis

256 is done using macrophages, but the EMSA is done using Jurkat (a T cell
257 line), and the luciferase reporters HEK293 (embryonic kidney). Why
258 this multi-cell-type approach was taken is a bit puzzling.
259 Transcriptional regulation and eQTLs can often be shared among
260 different cell types, but they state that the IMPACT analysis is
261 cell-type specific.

262

263 **Response:**

264 We acknowledge the Reviewer's concern about the differences in cell types used for functional
265 validation. This is a previously uncharacterized locus, and therefore, it was unclear what the
266 most relevant cell type and context choice should be. We therefore conducted more thorough
267 and deeper analyses to get at this issue.

268

269 We first looked for cell-type-specific regulatory elements using an updated version of IMPACT⁹
270 and observed monocyte-specific predicted regulatory elements at rs73226617 at
271 chr3:141400653 and rs148722713 at chr3:141401146 (IMPACT score 0.79 and 0.41
272 respectively). We recently demonstrated that IMPACT is able to outperform predictions of
273 cell-type specific transcription factor binding better than other epigenetic features, or indeed
274 other motif prediction algorithms⁹.

275

276 Based on the IMPACT analysis and the suggested enhancer activity in monocytes, we studied
277 monocytic cell lines (THP1) as the most likely experimental model for locus-specific gene
278 regulatory activity, recognizing that THP1 immortalized cell lines may only approximate the
279 biology of monocytes. In order to consolidate the analyses, we performed the EMSA analysis in
280 human THP1 cells. We have revised our EMSA analysis so that it is now focused on
281 allele-specific binding of THP1 nuclear complexes, and used different types of DNA retardation
282 gels to address technical concerns (see response to **Comment #7**). We have removed data
283 from Jurkat76 cell lines (representing T cells).

284

285 To demonstrate allele specific enhancer activity, we carried out extensive luciferase experiments
286 in THP1 cells, but could not fully implement the technique due to the lower transfection
287 efficiency, which renders the quantitative assessment of allele-specific effects on luciferase
288 reporter expression unreliable. We subsequently removed the luciferase analysis from the

289 manuscript completely to harmonize all the laboratory validations in monocytes, as predicted by
290 the *in silico* analysis (see response to **Comment #8**).

291

292 We addressed the choice of using different cell lines in the EMSA concerns more specifically in
293 the following text:

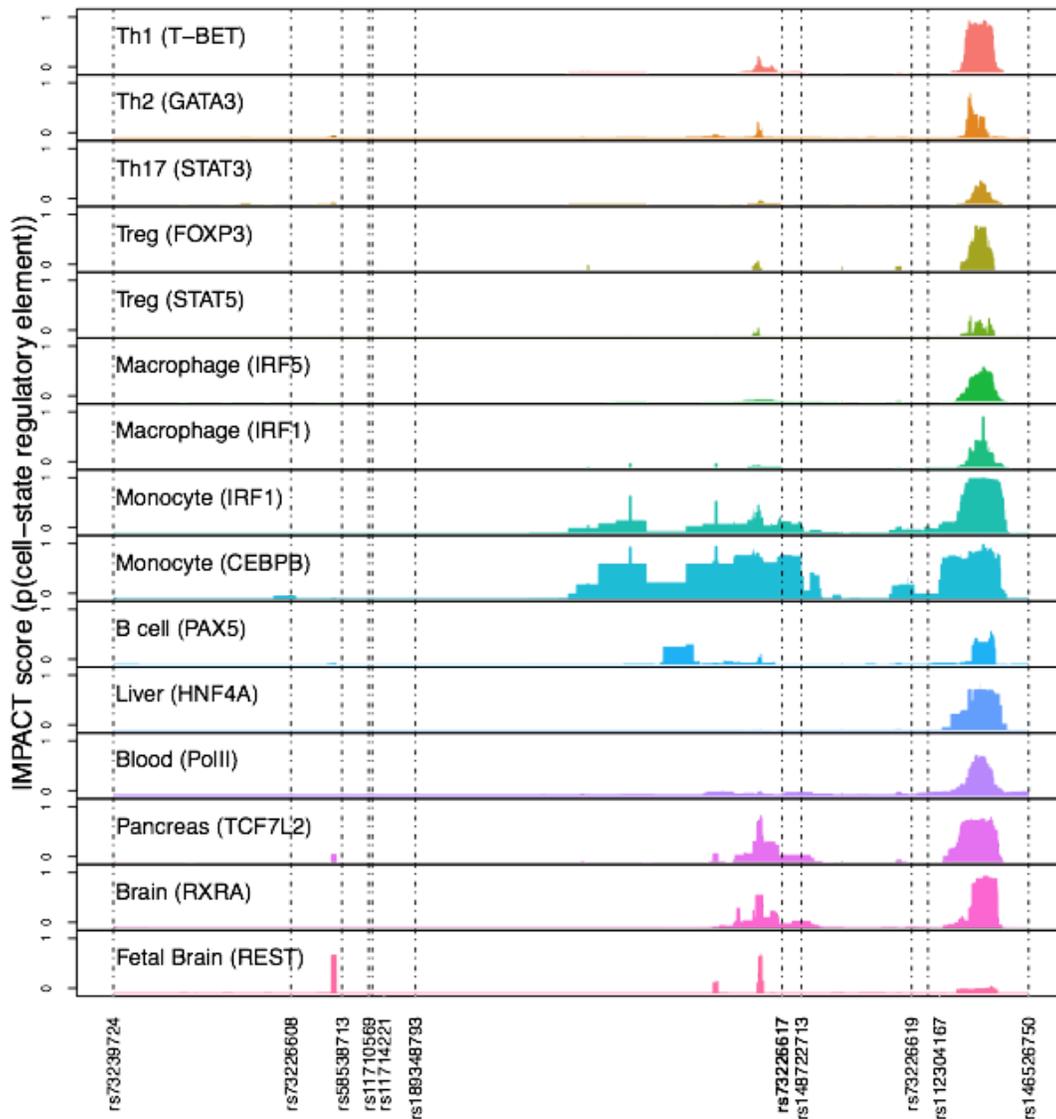
294 “Briefly, IMPACT identifies regions predicted to be involved in transcriptional regulatory
295 processes related to a cell-type-specific key transcription factor (**Methods**) by leveraging
296 information from approximately 400 chromatin and sequence annotations in public
297 databases (**Figure 3c, Supplementary Table 10**). Each variant is assigned with a
298 probability between 0 (least likely to be a regulatory element) and 1 (most likely to be a
299 regulatory element). We tiled through the 23,308 base pair region on a per-nucleotide
300 basis, computing the probability of a cell-type-specific regulatory element separately for
301 15 different cell types and cell states of which 10 are immune cell types with known roles
302 in TB outcomes, including T cells, B cells, monocytes, macrophages, and peripheral
303 blood cells (**Figure 3e**). We observed monocyte-specific predicted regulatory elements
304 at rs73226617 and rs148722713 (IMPACT score 0.79 and 0.41 respectively, **Figure 3d**).

305 ...

306 Based on the IMPACT analysis and the suggested enhancer activity in monocytes, we
307 studied monocytic cells (THP1) as the most likely experimental model for locus-specific
308 gene regulatory activity. We performed electrophoretic mobility shift assays (EMSA) to
309 test whether the variants differentially bound nuclear complexes in an allele-specific
310 manner among the seven variants that constitute the 90% credible set (**Methods**). We
311 could detect differential protein binding that was competed out by unlabeled probes for
312 three of the risk alleles (rs73226617, rs58538713, and rs148722713) (**Supplementary**
313 **Figure 14**), providing evidence that these alleles might confer differential transcription
314 factor binding activity, and in the right context may lead to altered enhancer activity.”

315

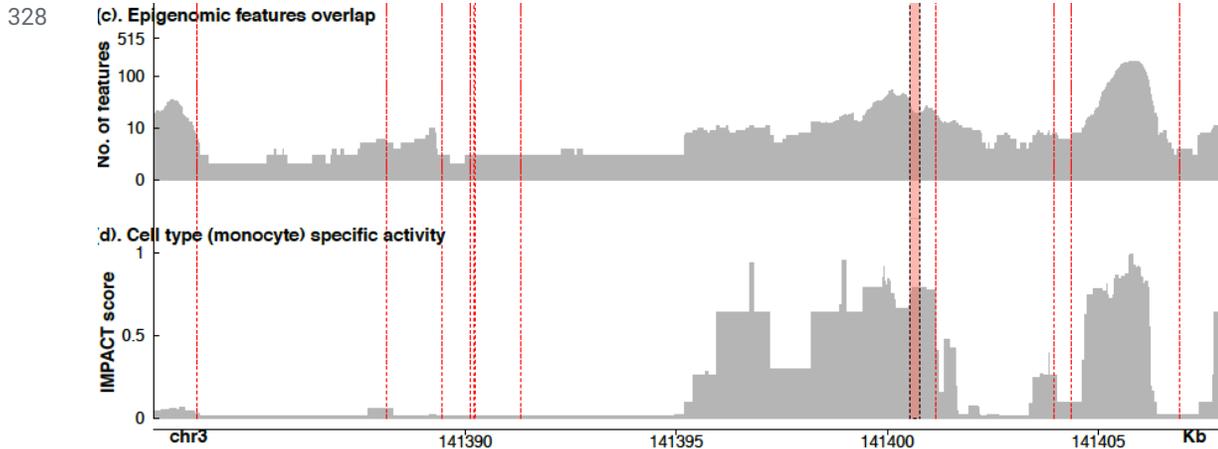
316 For the new IMPACT analysis we added the following new **Figure 3e**:



318 **Figure 3e.** Intersection of nucleotide-resolution of variant cell-state IMPACT annotations with
 319 potential causal variants in 3q23 locus. The y-axis shows the posterior probability of predicted
 320 cell-state regulatory activity among each variant in 15 different cell types and cell states. The
 321 x-axis shows the genomic positions of all 11 risk variants among the identified risk locus. The
 322 bolded variant (rs73226617) is the leading risk variant from the association study which shows
 323 the highest predicted cell-state regulatory activity in monocytes (masked by CEBPB
 324 transcription factor).

326 We have also updated main **Figure 3c-d** in light of the new IMPACT analysis

327



329 **Figure 3.** (c) Number of overlaps between all variants in the risk locus and ~400 epigenetic
330 features. (d) Predicted posterior probability of cell-type-specific gene regulatory activity using
331 Inference and Modeling of Phenotype-related ACtive Transcription (IMPACT) based on the
332 epigenetic chromatin signature of binding sites of the transcription factor [CEBPB in monocytes](#).
333 Dashed lines highlights 11 top associated variants. Genotyped variant rs73226617 is highlighted
334 in red bar.

335

336 7) EMSA analysis. No indication of the number of biological
337 replicates, quantification of signals, statistical analysis are given.
338 Based on the amount of unbound sample, some of the differences may
339 simply be due to unequal loading. Quantification of the EMSA signals
340 from multiple experiments should help the investigators determine
341 whether any of the signal is real. They may also want to rerun the
342 IMPACT analysis based on T cells as the cell type instead of
343 macrophages.

344

345 **Response:**

346 The EMSA analysis is now reported in THP1 cell lines, instead of Jurkat76 cells

347 **(Supplementary Figure 14)** In terms of replication, we performed the EMSA in THP1 nuclear

348 extract samples derived from three independent cell line batches, which showed consistent
349 patterns of probe binding to nuclear complexes.

350

351 In terms of quantification and statistical analysis of the EMSA results, we did not statistically
352 evaluate broad patterns in allele-specific binding to THP1 nuclear complexes, since we interpret
353 the EMSA results qualitatively, to evaluate broad patterns in allele-specific differential binding of
354 probes to THP1 nuclear complexes. They only lend one layer of evidence to functionally
355 validate allele-specific binding activities, and are used in this context as an initial screen to
356 prioritize variants for functional follow-up without deriving any mechanistic or quantitative insight.

357

358 Finally, the Reviewer raises a specific concern about the amount of unbound “free probe” in the
359 previous EMSA analysis, which we address in revision. We realized that the previous EMSA
360 gradient (6-12%) gels showed an artifact where the signal in the unbound free probe at the
361 bottom of the gel was lost when the non-biotinylated “cold” competitor probes were added. As
362 the Reviewer correctly points out, the loss of signal when the competitor was added would cloud
363 the interpretation of allele-specific binding patterns, since it would not be clear if the signal was
364 lost because of this gel type-associated artifact or a real competition between the biotinylated
365 and non-biotinylated probes. We re-ran the EMSA experiments using a 5% Tris-base-EDTA
366 (TBE) gels, which showed the unbound free probe at the bottom more clearly, as well as more
367 equivalent loading in the different wells. In these cases, comparing the second lane (biotinylated
368 probe only) and the third lane (biotinylated and non-biotinylated probes) for each allele still
369 showed equivalent amounts of free probes at the bottom of the gels, suggesting that
370 competition did not result in a loss of the biotinylated probe signal.

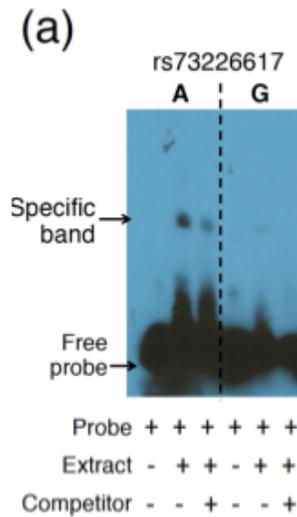
371

372 As per previous **Comment #6**, we reperformed the IMPACT analysis in 15 different cell types
373 and cell states, and saw little signal in T cells and other cell types at our SNPs with highest
374 posterior probabilities. To focus on the monocyte lineage, we reported the EMSA analysis using
375 THP1 cell lines in the manuscript to address this point.

376

377 We also updated **Supplementary Figure 14** for the EMSA results performed in THP1, which
378 also address the concern about the disappearance of the unbound “free probe” after we used
379 the 5% TBE DNA retardation gels. Here is an example:

380



381 **Supplementary Figure 14. EMSA for top seven associated variants.** (a) rs73226617 (b)
382 rs58538713 (c) rs148722713 (d) rs189348793 (e) rs11710569 (f) rs73226608 (g) rs146526750.
383 Lanes in the panel correspond to double stranded probes without (lane 1) or with THP1 nuclear
384 extracts (lane2) and an additional non-biotinylated competitor probe (lane 3).

385

386 8) Luciferase assays show that none of the associated SNPs appear to
387 affect expression in HEK293 cells. This should be repeated in the cell
388 type where they have noted a difference in IRF1 occupancy—Jurkat
389 and/or macrophage cells.

390

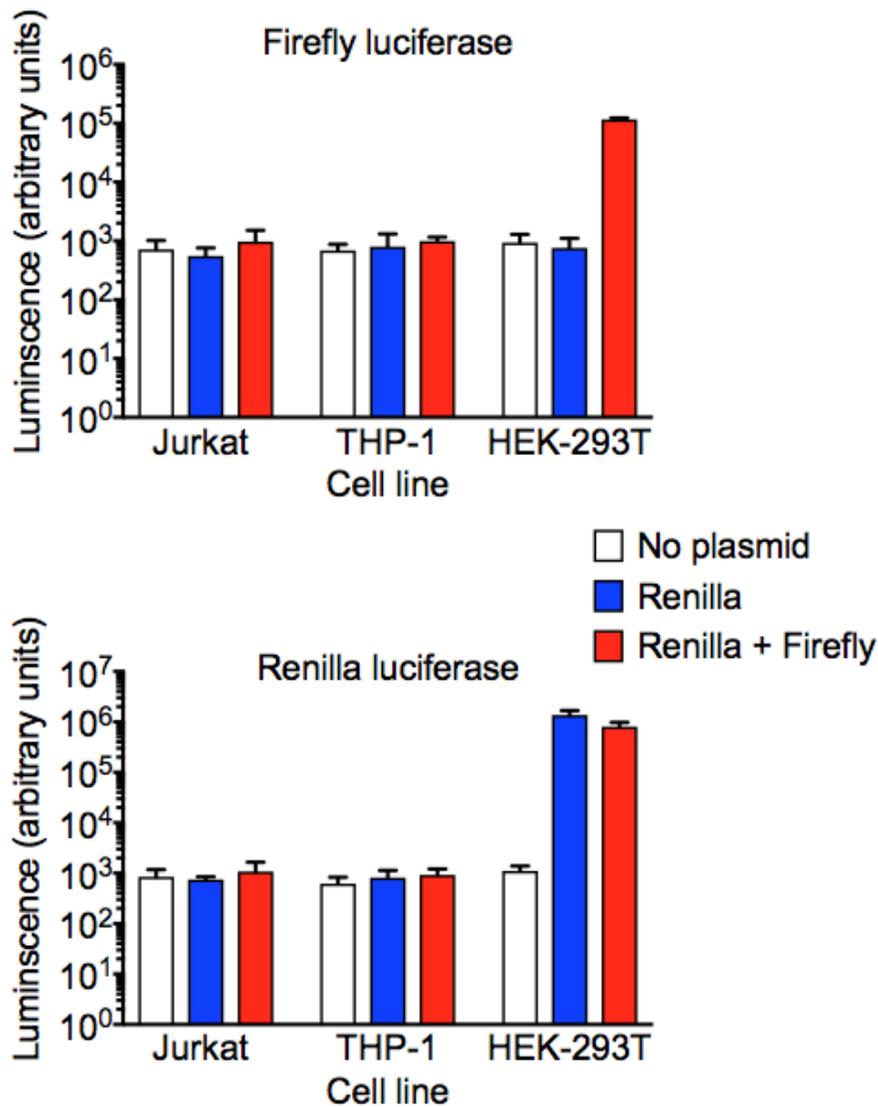
391 **Response:**

392 We acknowledge the Reviewer's concern about the various cell lines used for functional
393 validation of the 3q23 variants. We removed the luciferase analysis from the manuscript
394 completely to harmonize all the laboratory validations in monocytes, as predicted by the *in silico*
395 analysis.

396

397 Similarly to the EMSA, we attempted to use THP1 cells for this experiment. However, due to the
398 low lipofectamine-based transfection efficiency of THP1 cells as shown in the luminescence
399 signals in the different transfected cell lines in attached figure, we opted to use human
400 embryonic kidney (HEK) 293T cells, which are routinely used for luciferase assays. The
401 luminescence readout for both the Firefly and Renilla luciferase vectors was more than 2 logs

402 higher in HEK293T cells than either Jurkat 76 or THP1 cells (see below), and were more
403 reproducible across technical replicates. Therefore, we considered the luminescence data more
404 reliable in HEK293T cells, compared to THP1 cells.
405



406 Overall changing the cell line alone for this assay may not be sufficient to unmask false negative
407 findings. We conclude that failure to detect allele-specific functional activities using luciferase
408 assays does not preclude a cell type- and context-specific gene regulatory activity in the locus.

409 9) While a causal SNP is not convincingly identified, possible causal
410 genes are given even less attention, thus limiting the impact of the
411 manuscript in understanding TB pathogenesis.

412

413 **Response:**

414 To address the Reviewer's concern, we first performed a number of *in silico* lookups (promoter
415 Hi-C, eQTL and chromQTL) for existing evidence of promoter/enhancer activity that can suggest
416 potential causal genes highlighted by the identified novel risk locus.

417

418 We conducted a new set of experiments using CRISPR/Cas9 to introduce indels to disrupt the
419 3q23 enhancer region where the candidate variants are concentrated (**Supplementary Figures**
420 **16 and 17**). Due to the well-documented difficulties of CRISPR/Cas9 editing primary human
421 monocytes, we investigated these loci in THP1 cells, a well-studied monocytic cell line. We
422 hypothesized that disrupting the putative enhancer region would modulate the expression of
423 neighboring genes, thus pointing to the most likely gene associated with the risk allele. We
424 generated individual THP1 clonal cell lines harbouring unique edits and deletions in the proximal
425 region surrounding rs73226617 using target guides and compared gene expression between
426 edited and unedited clonal cell lines. However, we could not detect any differential gene
427 expression as a consequence of disrupting the putative enhancer region. Therefore, we could
428 not definitely conclude that the region regulates the expression of any proximal or distal genes,
429 under the tested cell type and context.

430

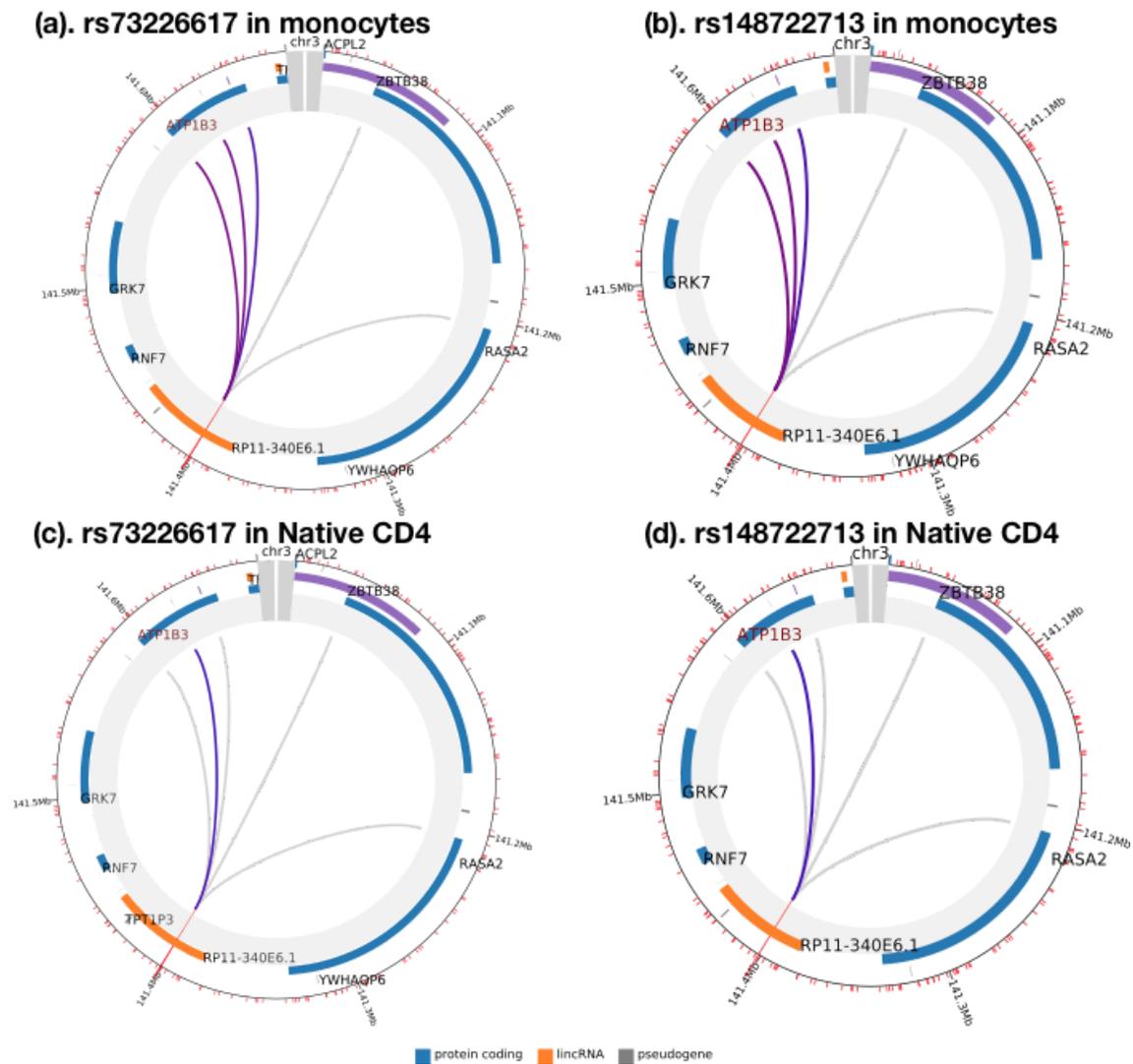
431 We added the following text to describe the new *in silico* evidence for potential causal gene
432 candidate in the main text:

433 "Next we searched public promoter Hi-C databases^{10,11} to identify any significant
434 interactions between the monocyte specific enhancer harboring our most likely causal
435 allele, rs73226617 and rs148722713. We found that in monocytes, both of the risk
436 variants (rs73226617, rs148722713) are in a region that interacts with the promoter of
437 *ATP1B3* (**Supplementary Figure 15a-b**). Similar to the IMPACT results, we found the
438 variant-gene interactions are strongest in monocytes compared to other cell types
439 (**Supplementary Figure 15c-d**), suggesting cell-type-specific activities in the identified
440 TB risk locus. *ATP1B3* (ATPase Na⁺/K⁺ Transporting Subunit Beta 3) is a protein-coding
441 gene, which belongs to the family of Na⁺/K⁺ and H⁺/K⁺ ATPases. Na⁺/K⁺ -ATPases are

442 composed of an alpha, beta, and FXYD subunits, are integral membrane proteins
443 responsible for establishing and maintaining the electrochemical gradients of sodium
444 and potassium ions across the plasma membrane through active transport against their
445 osmotic gradients. A recent study demonstrated that the Na, K ATPase Beta 3 subunit in
446 monocytes has an important function in mediating a normal T cell response¹². Indeed
447 ligating it with an antibody resulted in a blunted T cell response after stimulation. This
448 effect was specific to the monocytes population. Consistent with these findings,
449 differential expression of *ATP1B3* in whole blood, along with genes coding for other
450 members of the Na⁺/K⁺ -ATPases, was recently reported to be associated with TB
451 progression in an African cohort of household contacts of TB patients¹³. Collectively, the
452 Hi-C analysis and reported association with TB progression point to *ATP1B3* as a
453 candidate gene of the risk locus in 3q23. ”

454

455 We added new **Supplementary Figure 15** to report the promoter activity supported by Hi-C
456 data:

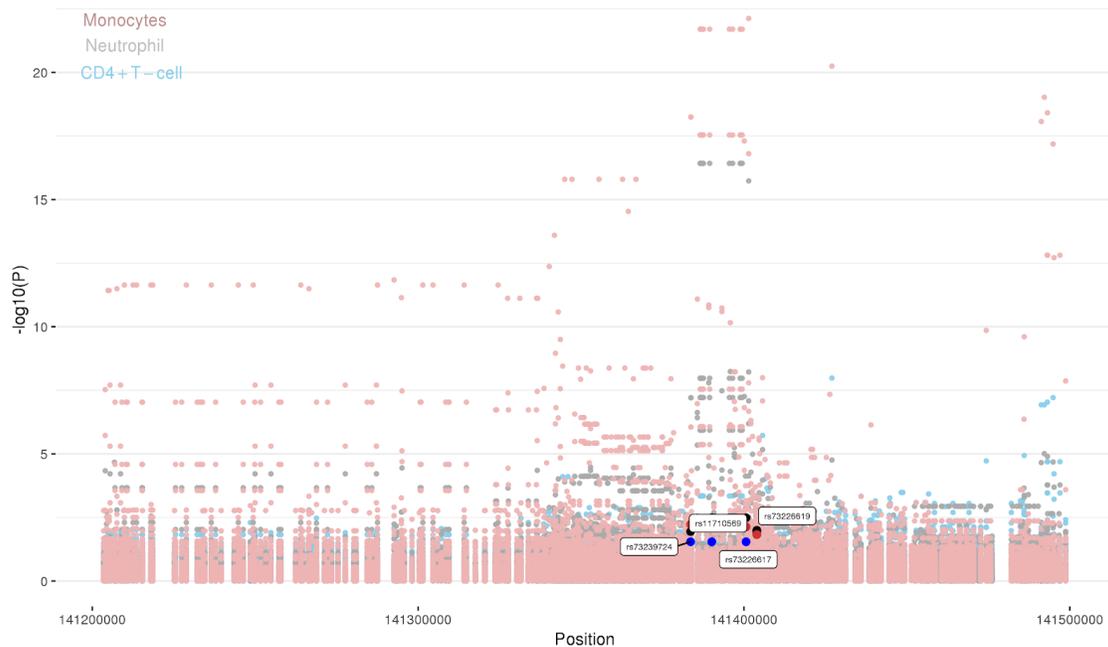


458 **Supplementary Figure 15. Promoter capture Hi-C from www.chicp.org.** Selected public
 459 promoter Hi-C data in 17 human primary hematopoietic cell types reveals (a)-(b) strong
 460 monocyte interactions (highest score = 9.54) between an enhancer region containing the
 461 leading risk variant (rs73226617) and *ATP1B3* in monocyte. This interaction is much weaker in
 462 (c)-(d) the Naive CD4+ T cells and other cell types (highest score = 5.51).

463

464 We added new **Supplementary Figure 13** to report the enhancer activity supported by
 465 chromQTL data:

466



468 **Supplementary Figure 13. Chromatin QTL analysis results in Blueprint project.** To
 469 understand the effects of genetic variants in immune cells, we utilized eQTL
 470 summary statistics produced by Blueprint project¹⁴. Detailed methods were reported in the
 471 original article. Briefly, the Blueprint project collected CD14+ monocytes (brown), CD16+
 472 neutrophils (grey), and naive CD4+ T cells (light blue) from 197 individuals. We analyzed
 473 histone variation (H3K4me1) and tested associations of genetic variants within 1 Mb of each
 474 normalized features using a linear regression model that includes a random effect term
 475 accounting for sample relatedness. Four top risk variants that are associated with TB
 476 progression were included in the analysis (annotated in white boxes).

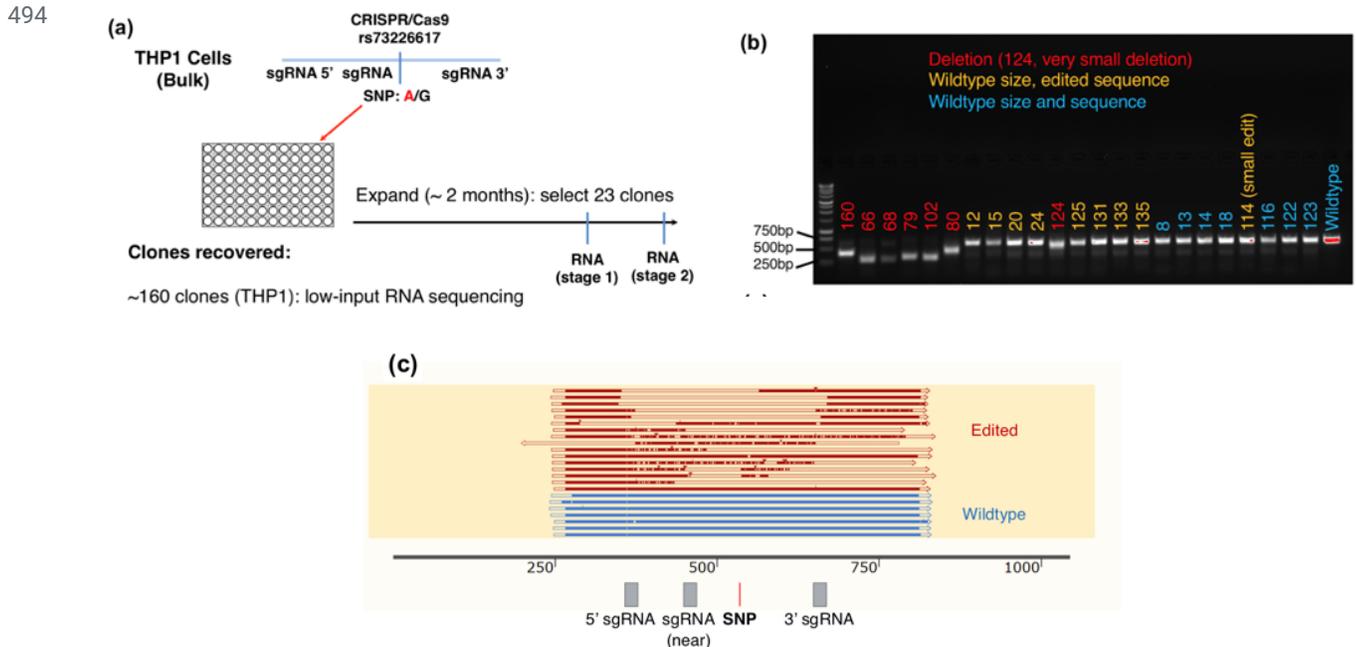
477

478 We added the following text to describe our new CRISPR/Cas9 experiment in the manuscript:

479 “Since *in silico* evidence suggested that our identified TB risk locus harbors
 480 monocyte-specific regulatory elements, we used the CRISPR/Cas9 system to introduce
 481 insertions/deletions around the top associated variant rs73226617 (**Methods**,
 482 **Supplementary Figure 16a**). Among 23 sorted and grown clones that had unchanged
 483 risk loci or harbored unique edits and deletions (**Supplementary Table 11** and
 484 **Supplementary Figures 16b-c**), we did not observe differential gene expression
 485 between edited and unedited THP1 clones in the eight genes around the rs73226617

486 variant ($P > 0.05$, **Methods, Supplementary Figures 17**). While we observed no effect in
 487 THP1 cell lines, this might be the result from differences between primary monocytes
 488 and transformed THP1 cell lines, or failure to identify the relevant activation conditions
 489 and cell context to test enhancer activities, which are known to influence eQTL
 490 interactions^{15–18}. In particular we noted the enhancer activity seen in primary monocytes,
 491 is not seen in THP1 cell lines^{19–22} (**Supplementary Figure 18**).”

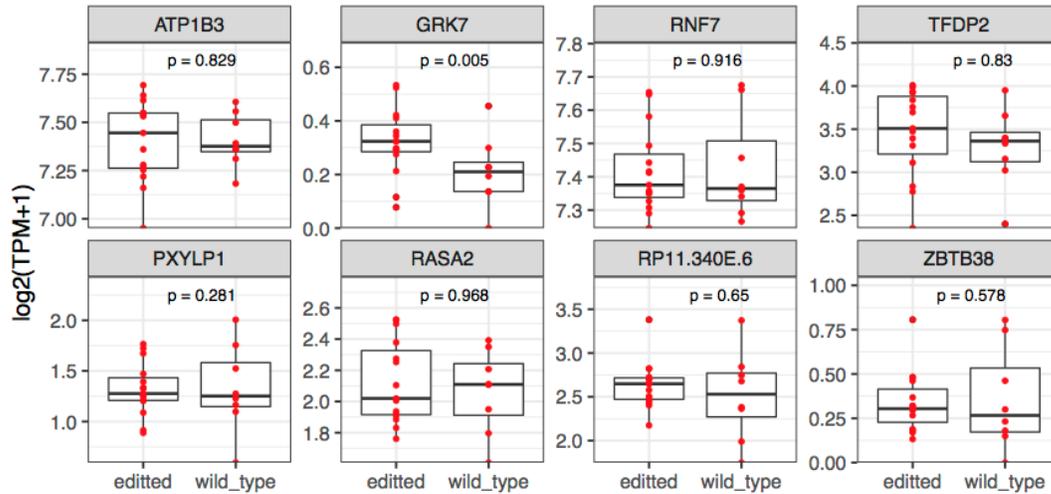
493 We added **Supplementary Figure 16** and **17** for details of the CRISPR/Cas9 experiment:



495 **Supplementary Figure 16. Overview of the CRISPR/Cas9 experiment.** (a) CRISPR/Cas9
 496 strategy to disrupt the enhancer region surrounding the rs73226617 lead risk variant in 3q23.
 497 THP1 cells were nucleofected with 3 guide RNA molecules targeting genomic region around the
 498 variant, then expanded for RNA extractions and gene expression analysis. Bulk-edited THP1
 499 cells were also single-cell sorted into 96 well-plates and expanded for DNA extractions and
 500 sanger sequencing for initial screening. 23 clones were expanded to represent different edits,
 501 where some show evidence of genomic deletion, or intact sequence length, for gene expression
 502 analysis by low-input RNA sequencing and qRT-PCR. (b) Amplicons were analyzed by gel
 503 electrophoresis to confirm deletions detected after initial screening. Intact amplicons are
 504 expected around 700 base pairs (wildtype band, far left). (c) Alignment of sanger sequences

505 derived from the 23 THP1 clones showing location of edits compared to wildtype (unedited)
506 amplicon sequences. Red and blue sequences represent edited and unedited THP1 clones,
507 respectively.

508

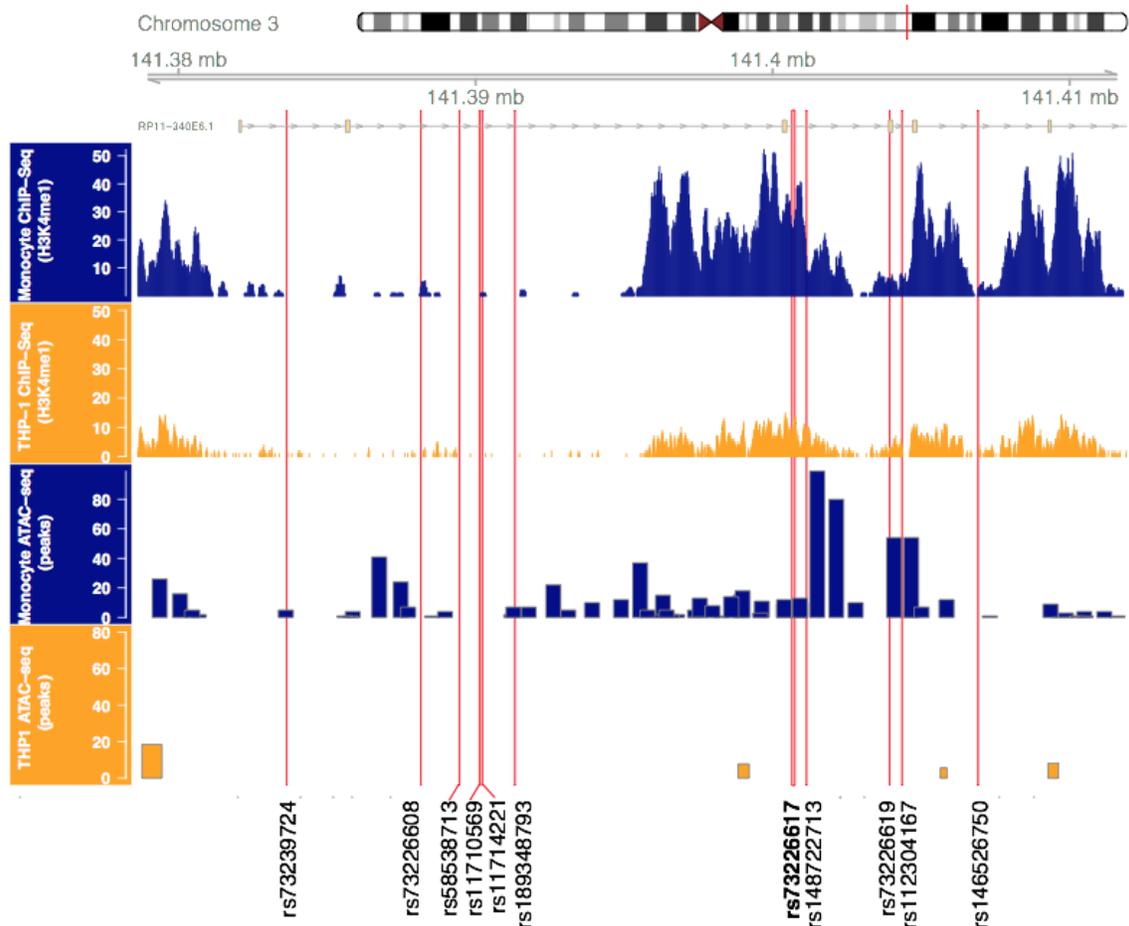


509

Supplementary Figure 17. Low-input RNA-sequencing analysis. Expression of eight genes
510 around rs73226617 in THP1 clones, which maintained wildtype genomic sequence after
511 expansion of single cells from bulk-edited THP1 cells compared to edited clones. P-values are
512 derived from a linear regression model including first principal component of the gene
513 expression profile as covariate.

514

515 We added **Supplementary Figure 18** to show the enhancer activity was only seen in primary
516 monocytes.



518 **Supplementary Figure 18. Enhancer activity of the risk locus (3q23) in primary**
 519 **monocytes and THP1 cell lines indicated by ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq.** From top to bottom,
 520 the y-axis shows the raw reads of ChIP-seq for H3K4me1 in primary monocytes (GSM1003535)
 521 and in THP-1 cell lines (GSM3514950); raw counts of ATAC-seq in primary monocytes
 522 (GSE74912) and in THP1 cell lines (GSE96800). The x-axis shows the genomic positions of the
 523 identified risk locus (chr3:141383525-141407033). The vertical lines highlights 11 top
 524 associated variants. Genotyped variant rs73226617 is highlighted in bold.

Minor:

525 1) Typos throughout should be corrected, such as italicization of
 526 "exposure" in the title.

527 **Reponse:**

528 We have corrected typographical errors.

529

530 2) The novelty of conducting a genetic study of Peruvians may be
531 overstated. A pubmed of "GWAS Peru" revealed several other studies
532 that have incorporated Peruvian subjects. The authors should either
533 scale back this claim or indicate more explicitly what differentiates
534 this study from these previous studies.

535

536 **Reponse:**

537 Our claim that our study 'is the most extensive genetic study conducted in Peru to date' reflect
538 the fact that, to our knowledge, the number of subjects enrolled in our study (4,002) is the
539 largest that has been conducted in Peru to date. We had another search of public database of
540 Peruvian genome in the published work, the next largest study that has been recently published
541 included 1,247 Peruvian subjects²³. Based on the Reviewer's recommendation, we have thus
542 revised the text:

543 "To our knowledge, this represents the largest genetic study conducted in Peru to date."

544

545 3) Unclear what this sentence means at line 285: "Sex and age were
546 included as fixed effects to correct for population stratification
547 (Supplementary Figure 2)."

548

549 **Response:**

550 We have now changed the text:

551 "We used the genetic relatedness matrix (GRM) as random effects to correct for cryptic
552 relatedness and population stratification between collected individuals. Sex and age
553 were included as fixed effects."

554

555 4) Overall, I think the manuscript would benefit if it weren't so
556 compactly written.

557

558 **Response:**

559 We thank the Reviewer for this suggestion and have expanded our text where possible,
560 especially around efforts on functional validations and biological implications of our study.

Reviewer #3 (Remarks to the Author):

561 Luo and colleagues describe a GWAS of early TB progression in a
562 Peruvian population. The study rationale, methods and results are
563 clearly presented. The authors report a genetic locus at 3q23 as being
564 associated with early TB progression. The authors highlight the
565 relative paucity of validated infectious-disease genetic
566 susceptibility loci, as compared to other complex traits, and advocate
567 denser phenotyping as means to overcome the difficulty identifying
568 infection-associated genetic variation.

569

570 The genetic association study design is excellent. The study
571 participants are very well-phenotyped, which benefits the GWAS. The
572 conduct and presentation of the GWAS itself is extremely robust, and I
573 only have minor comments relating to that. However, the lack of
574 independent replication of the GWAS findings makes the TB:3q23
575 association interesting but preliminary. The particular design of the
576 GWAS may well make replication in independent cohorts challenging, but
577 in the absence of more convincing functional data, the genetic
578 association needs to be replicated.

579

580 **Response:** We are grateful for the strong endorsement of our key findings as excellent, since
581 the basic lack of understanding the genetic basis of why some humans progress to TB, but most
582 do not, remains one of the most important unanswered questions in the TB field. We accept that
583 independent population validation is important, so have revised on key issues as highlighted
584 above and a few additional points that are framed according to the Reviewer's major points.

Major Points

585 1. The study does not include independent replication of TB
586 progression susceptibility at the 3q23 locus. While I accept that the
587 phenotype of TB progression would be challenging to replicate exactly,
588 might it be possible to enrich for early progressors by restricting

589 the Icelandic/Russian replication analysis to individuals under 40
590 years?

591

592 **Response:**

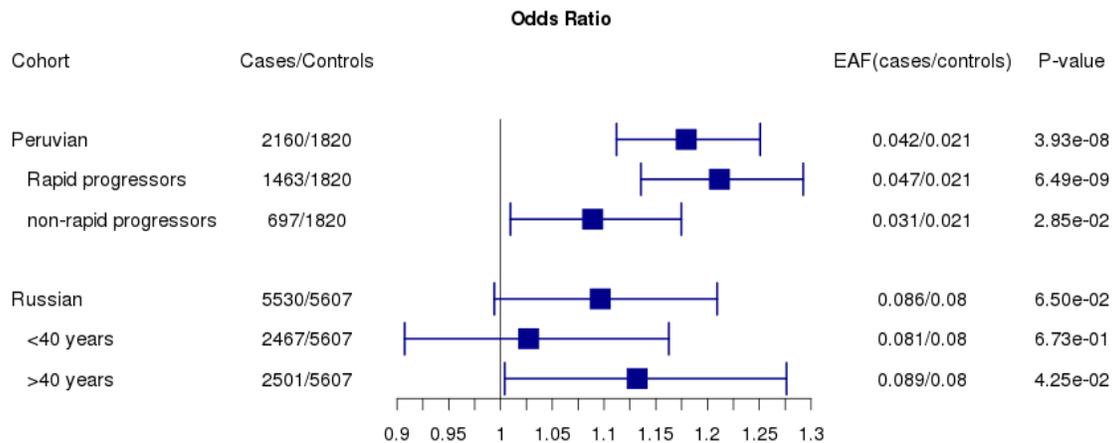
593 We agree with the Reviewer's comment recognizing the challenge of replicating the study in an
594 independent validation cohort due to the uniqueness of our cohort definition. Having said that,
595 we were also uncertain whether restricting the age of Icelandic/Russian patients to those under
596 40 would necessarily obtain rapid progressors. In both instances the controls are uninfected
597 individuals.

598

599 In order to address the Reviewer's concern we pursued the suggestion of a possible replication
600 strategy by restricting cases in the Icelandic/Russian cohort to individuals under 40 years old, to
601 increase the likelihood of primary progression, thus better resembling the progressors in the
602 Peruvian cohort. We subsequently contacted authors in the Russian cohort and obtained age
603 information in cases. In the association study where we restrict cases with individual under 40
604 years old only, we observed a P-value of 0.673 that is as compared to 0.065 in the non-stratified
605 association study. We noted this result is opposite to what we expected for early progressors (as
606 summarized in the figure below). We speculated that since the incarcerated population
607 accounted for ~25% of all new TB cases in Russia, and the majority of TB cases among
608 prisoners were identified during the initial examination²⁴, suggesting that many cases had been
609 missed by the civilian TB centers and thus age at diagnosis might not be a good indicator for
610 early progression in this cohort.

611

612 Further, we noted that the frequency of the top risk variant (rs73226617) in the 'non-rapid'
613 progressor population is similar to the frequency reported in the general population (3%,
614 reported in the 1000 Genome Project). However, its frequency is lower among latent controls
615 (MAF = 2.1%), and higher in early progressors (MAF = 4.2%), suggesting that significant
616 association that we observed is contributed by both the early progressors and latent TB
617 individuals. This is confirmed by the frequency that we observed in the Russian cohort for the
618 same risk variant has the same frequency in controls as it is reported in the general population
619 (MAF = 8%). Therefore, the differences in the phenotypic definition for the control samples could
620 significantly lower the power for detecting the same association in a population-wide TB
621 susceptibility cohort.



623 2. The authors state in the abstract that “early TB progression has a
 624 stronger genetic basis than population-wide TB susceptibility”. While
 625 I agree that the point estimate for heritability is higher for TB
 626 progression, the 95% confidence intervals for SNP heritability of TB
 627 progression and TB per se appear to overlap. A further limitation is
 628 that these estimates are derived by different means (were genotype
 629 level data not available for the Russian dataset?). The estimate of TB
 630 progression heritability merits reporting, but the interpretation
 631 needs to be more considered. It also merits some discussion that these
 632 estimates are sensitive to TB prevalence (as demonstrated in methods
 633 lines 329–331).

634

635 **Response:**

636 We agree that comparing heritability estimates derived using different methods are not
 637 straightforward. We requested genotype level data from the Russian dataset, and performed
 638 GCTA analysis for estimating the genetic heritability of population-wide TB susceptibility. As per
 639 **Reviewer #1 Comment #1**, we have updated all the estimates in the revised manuscript and
 640 removed all the claims about early TB progression has a stronger genetic basis than
 641 population-wide TB susceptibility. In particular we have added the following text in the main text:

642 “Using GCTA, we estimated the h_g^2 of population-wide TB susceptibility to be 17.8%
 643 (s.e.=0.02, $P = 2.85 \times 10^{-21}$) with assumed prevalence of 0.04². Even though the point
 644 estimate of h_g^2 of TB progression is greater than for population-wide TB risk in the

645 Russian study, these are not statistically different from each other (two tailed $P = 0.68$,
646 **Supplementary Figure 6**). Regardless, the strong host genetic basis of TB progression
647 suggests that larger progression studies may be well-powered to discover additional
648 variants.”

649

650 3. With regard to the case-only analysis it would be interesting to
651 see the rs73226617 allele frequencies in clustered molecular
652 fingerprint cases vs. unique molecular fingerprint cases vs. controls.
653 Might it be informative to present a Bayesian analysis comparing
654 progressors, reactivators vs shared controls, asking whether the most
655 likely model is indeed an association restricted to the progressors?
656

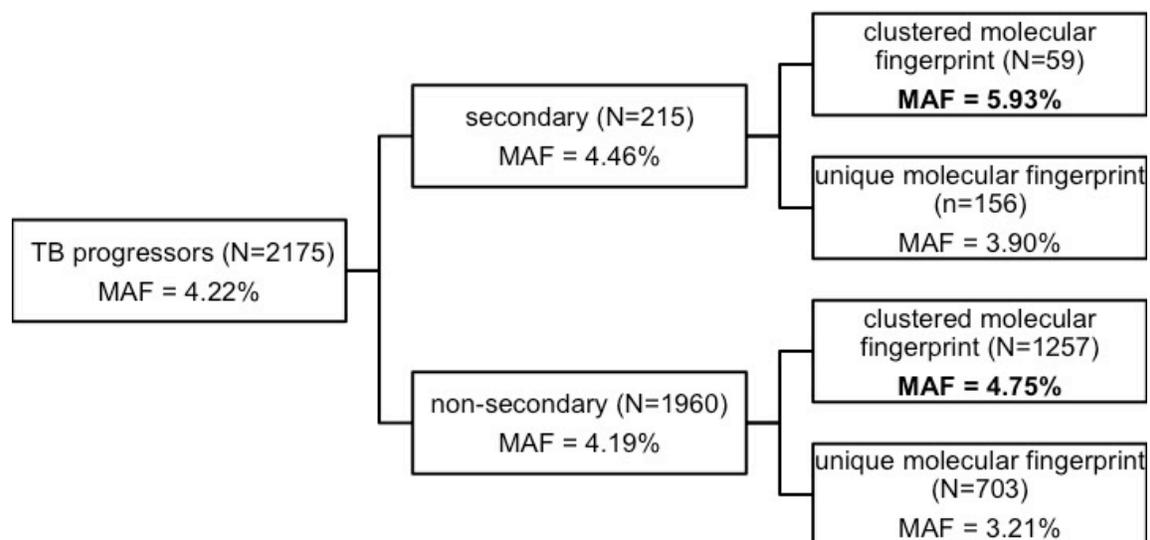
657

Response:

658 The MAF of the top associated variant (rs73226617) in clustered molecular fingerprint and
659 secondary cases is 4.69% and 3.26% in the unique molecular fingerprint (as shown in the
660 previous response). We have incorporated this information in the updated **Supplementary**
661 **Figure 9** (see below), where MAF of rs73226617 in the clustered cases is clearly higher than in
662 the non-clustered cases.

663

664



665 **Supplementary Figure 9. TB cases stratified by a molecular fingerprint.** All cultures of the
666 cases were genotyped using MIRU-VNTR. TB cases share the same molecular fingerprint are
667 epidemiologically more related while cases in which fingerprints are unique are due to remote
668 infection that has reactivated. [Reported minor allele frequency \(MAF\) in each category is of the](#)
669 [top associated variant rs73226617.](#)

670 Taking the Reviewer's suggestions, we performed a Bayesian analysis to test whether the
671 reported association is restricted to the early progressors. We calculated the approximate Bayes
672 factor (ABF)²⁵ for the top associated variant (rs73226617), testing the hypothesis that the
673 reported association is specific to early progressors with a shared molecular fingerprint. We
674 assumed the variance σ^2 around the true effect to be 0.04 as suggested by previous
675 studies^{25,26}. We assumed the probability of correlated true effects (ρ) between two phenotypes
676 to be 0.5. The disease specific $\log_{10}(ABF)$ (i.e., the ratio of the marginal likelihood for a model
677 where the variant is only associated with early progressor who has a shared molecular
678 fingerprints and/or a secondary cases ($\log_{10}(ABF) = 5.81$) and for a model where is associated
679 with all progressors ($\log_{10}(ABF) = 6.12$) is -0.31. This suggested that the SNP is most likely to
680 be associated with early progressors who have recent exposure to *M.tb.* alone, but almost
681 equally likely to be associated with TB progression in general. To test the robustness of the
682 model using different priors (σ^2 and ρ), we varied the values of $\sigma = \{0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4\}$ and
683 $\rho = \{0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9\}$ but did not detect a strong difference that would alter
684 the conclusion above (new **Supplementary Table 17**).

685 We are grateful that the Reviewer pointed out the initial mistake in interpreting of our secondary
686 case-only analysis. We wanted to argue that our reported risk locus is not only associated with
687 disease progression, but also associated with the early progression after recent exposure to
688 *M.tb.* This does not mean the reported signals are restricted to these early progressors with
689 shared molecular fingerprints only.

690 We have corrected the interpretation in the following text in the manuscript:

691 ["To determine whether the reported risk locus at 3q23 also has an independent](#)
692 [association with TB progression from recent *M.tb* infection, we conducted a case-only](#)
693 [analysis removing age from our case selection criteria. ... We next performed a](#)

694 Bayesian analysis to test whether the reported association is restricted to the early
695 progressors after recent exposure to *M.tb.* (**Methods**). The disease specific approximate
696 Bayes Factor²⁵ (i.e., the ratio of the marginal likelihood for a model where the variant is
697 only associated with early progressor who has a shared molecular fingerprints and/or a
698 secondary cases and for a model where is associated with all progressors) is 0.42. This
699 suggested that the SNP is most likely to be associated with early progressors who have
700 recent exposure to *M.tb.* alone, but almost equally likely to be associated with TB
701 progression in general..”

702 4. The functional data highlights that the locus sits in a regulatory
703 region in a plausible cell type, but does little to move forward our
704 understanding of the biology underlying any TB association at 3q23. At
705 a minimum, eQTL data supporting a cis association would be very
706 helpful advancing our understanding of any disease association.

707

708 **Response:**

709 As suggested, we took several approaches to identify functional association with the reported
710 risk locus.

711

712 As per **Reviewer #1 Comment #6**, to strengthen our understanding of the biological
713 implications of the novel risk locus, we first looked for cell-type-specific regulatory elements
714 using an updated version of IMPACT⁹. Briefly, IMPACT learns an epigenomic signature at
715 cell-type-specific transcription factor binding sites in a logistic regression framework. Each
716 variant is assigned with a probability between 0 (least likely to be a regulatory element) and 1
717 (most likely to be a regulatory element). We computed the probability of a cell-type-specific
718 regulatory element separately for 15 different cell types and cell states of which 10 are immune
719 cell types with known roles in TB outcomes with a known role in TB outcomes, including T cells,
720 B cells, monocytes, macrophages, and peripheral blood cells (new **Figure 3e, per Reviewer #1**
721 **Comment #6**). To this end, we downloaded publicly available ChIP-seq experiments of
722 canonical core transcription factors for each cell type separately. We observed
723 monocyte-specific predicted regulatory elements at rs73226617 at chr3:141400653 and
724 rs148722713 at chr3:141401146 (IMPACT score 0.79 and 0.41 respectively).

725

726 Next, we searched public promoter Hi-C databases¹⁰ to identify any significant interactions
727 between the 11 risk variants and their potential target genes. We found 5 out of the 11 risk
728 variants (rs73226617, rs148722713, rs73226619, rs112304167 and rs146526750) have
729 regulatory interaction with *ATP1B3* in monocytes (new **Supplementary Figure 15**).

730 Interestingly, similar to the IMPACT results, we found the variant-gene interactions are strongest
731 in monocytes compared to other cell types, suggesting cell-type-specific activities in the
732 identified TB risk locus. *ATP1B3* (ATPase Na⁺/K⁺ Transporting Subunit Beta 3) is a
733 protein-coding gene. The protein encoded by this gene belongs to the family of Na⁺/K⁺ and
734 H⁺/K⁺ ATPases beta chain proteins, and to the subfamily of Na⁺/K⁺ -ATPases. Na⁺/K⁺
735 -ATPases are composed of an alpha, beta, and FXYD subunits, and are integral membrane
736 proteins responsible for establishing and maintaining the electrochemical gradients of sodium
737 and potassium ions across the plasma membrane through active transport of 3 sodium ions
738 outside the cell and 2 potassium ions inwards.

739

740 It has been reported that *ATP1B3*, along with several genes coding for alpha and beta subunits
741 are differentially expressed during the course of TB progression after exposure to *Mtb* in a
742 longitudinal cohort of African household contacts of TB cases¹³. The convergence of the
743 association with the 3q23 variants with the promoter of *ATP1B3*, as one member of the
744 Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase family and overall dysregulation of the expression of Na⁺/K⁺-ATPase subunits
745 during TB progression both suggest that the *ATP1B3* gene is a likely target of the risk locus
746 identified in our GWAS analysis. However, the exact cell type, and context in which this gene is
747 activated remain unresolved using the approaches we applied in this manuscript, and will be
748 pursued in future studies.

749

750 We did not identify any significant eQTL using public databases. This might reflect the fact that
751 our reported TB risk locus has specific activities in monocytes, under specific cell-contexts or
752 stimulation conditions, or in other non-immune cells, but not in other cell types. However, most
753 of the public eQTL were reported in non-monocyte cell lines or have limited sample size²⁷⁻²⁹. In
754 addition, large scale gene expression studies such as the GTEx project¹⁶ reported that
755 less than 20% of complex trait associated loci have a cis-eQTL overlap. Therefore the lack of
756 eQTL signals of our reported risk locus is not a surprising result.

757

758 To further strengthen our understanding, we searched for other epigenomic evidence that may
759 indicate changes at transcriptional enhancers and other cis-regulatory elements. Having
760 previous knowledge of monocyte-specific activity of the identified risk locus, we actively sought
761 datasets that include monocyte cell-lines. We used data presented in the BLUEPRINT project¹⁴
762 to search for chromQTLs (**Methods**). We observed significant chromQTL present in the region
763 (characterized by the presence of H3K4me1) in monocyte (new **Supplementary Figure 13**),
764 further supporting the idea that this region is indeed an enhancer. All four SNPs that were
765 included in the dataset are in high LD with the top associated chromQTL signal (rs1568171, $D' =$
766 1.0) .

767

768 Together, this evidence strongly supports that our identified TB risk locus harbors
769 monocyte-specific predicted regulatory elements. We next performed a CRISPR/Cas9
770 experiment to test the hypothesis that the 3q23 variants marked an enhancer haplotype where
771 we expect gene regulatory activities based on epigenetic features. Due to the well-documented
772 difficulties of CRISPR/Cas9 editing primary human monocytes, we investigated these loci in
773 THP1 cells, a well-studied monocytic cell line. We disrupted the enhancer region by introducing
774 insertions/deletions and measured the expression of eight genes in the 0.5 MB surrounding the
775 top variant by low-input RNA sequencing. Among the eight tested genes, we did not detect any
776 statistically different expression level before and after disrupting the enhancer region (new
777 **Supplementary Figure 17**). This might be due to the chosen cell line (THP1) being unable to
778 completely reflect primary cell biology. In particular we noted the enhancer activity seen in
779 primary monocytes, is not seen in THP1 cell lines suggested by public ChIP-seq and ATAC-seq
780 databases^{19–22} (new **Supplementary Figure 18**).

781

782 We amended the manuscript to reflect these additional evidence and experiments (**Line**
783 **243-311**). Together with five new figures including: **Figure 3e** (IMPACT analysis)
784 **Supplementary Figure 13** (chromQTL), **Supplementary Figure 15** (Promoter capture Hi-C),
785 **Supplementary Figure 16** (CRISPR/Cas9 experiment), **Supplementary Figure 17** (low-input
786 RNA-sequencing analysis) and **Supplementary Figure 18** (enhancer activity in primary
787 monocytes and THP1 cell lines).

788

789 We hope these new lines of evidence can increase the Reviewer and readers' confidence in our
790 finding, and move forward our understanding of the biology underlying the reported association.

Minor Points

791 1. The sentence “We quantified...” on lines 97–98 seems redundant.

792 **Response:**

793 We have **removed** the sentence.

794 ~~“We quantified h_g^2 of TB progression and observed a surprisingly strong genetic basis.”~~

795

796 2. The study reports using SNP2HLA in the methods, but these results
797 don’t appear to be in the results. It would be of interest to report
798 the associated classical HLA allele/amino acids at the class I locus.

799 **Response:**

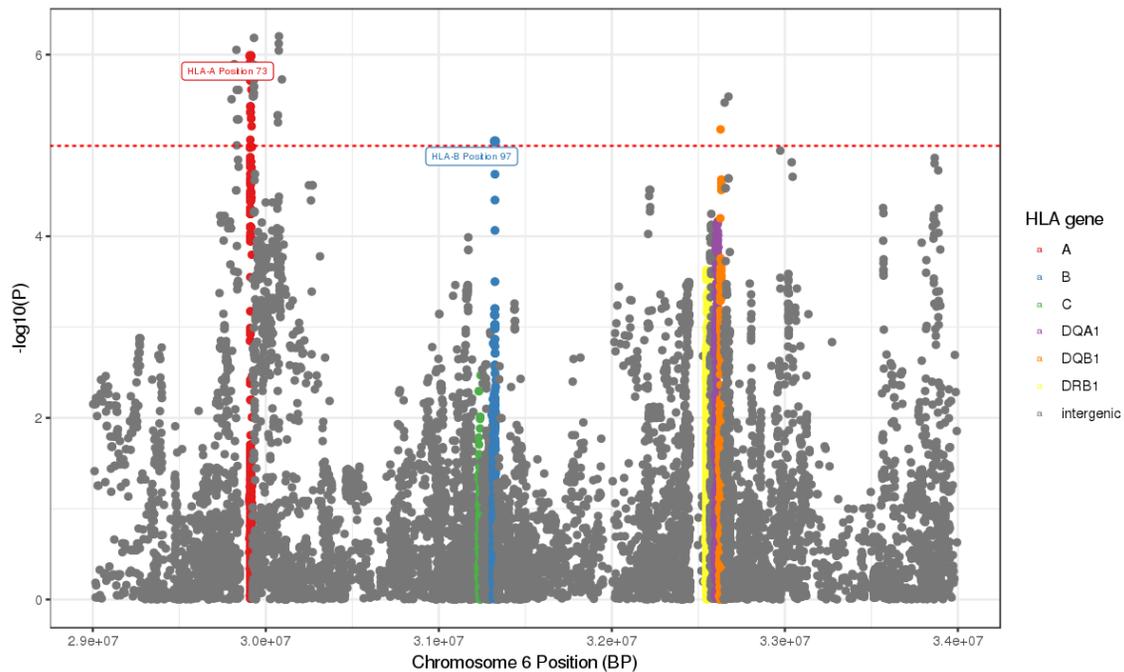
800 We thank the Reviewer for this suggestion. We expanded our results section to report more
801 details of the classical HLA allele/amino acid association in the main text:

802 “Next, we performed an HLA imputation using a multi-ethnic HLA reference panel
803 (**Methods**), and obtained genotypes for classical alleles as well as amino acid positions
804 of three class I (*HLA-A*, *HLA-B*, *HLA-C*) and three class II (*HLA-DQA1*, *HLA-DQB1*,
805 *HLA-DRB1*) HLA genes. Using the same linear mixed model framework (**Methods**,
806 **Supplementary Figure 12**), we tested associations between specific amino acid
807 positions and TB progression which identified the most significant association at amino
808 acid position 73 of *HLA-A* (OR=1.12, $P = 1.03 \times 10^{-6}$). We noted several other amino
809 acids of class I genes with suggestive associations ($P < 1 \times 10^{-5}$), including position 97
810 of *HLA-B* (OR=1.05, $P = 8.99 \times 10^{-6}$). Notably, amino acid variability at this position
811 affects the structure and flexibility of the peptide binding groove and is associated with
812 many infectious and autoimmune phenotypes, such as HIV-1 viral load^{30,31} and
813 ankylosing spondylitis³². These results suggest that HLA class I genes might play a role
814 in TB progression.”

815

816 We updated **Supplementary Figure 12** for this analysis:

817



818 **Supplementary Figure 12. Manhattan plot of HLA region.** We imputed HLA region using
819 SNP2HLA with a multi-ethnic HLA reference panel. The most significant amino acid association
820 is position 73 of HLA-A (OR=1.12, $P = 1.03 \times 10^{-6}$)

821

822 3. Line 284-285: "Sex and age were included as fixed effects to
823 correct for population stratification (Supplementary Figure 2)." The
824 supplementary figure this refers to is presumably S3? Also I assume
825 that this sentence is missing inclusion of principal components 1 and
826 2 (or was the GRM alone use to control for population structure)?
827 Either seems appropriate, this just wasn't clear to me.

828 **Response:**

829 We thank the Reviewer for pointing out this issue. We have now changed the text to:

830 "We used the genetic relatedness matrix (GRM) as random effects to correct for cryptic
831 relatedness and population stratification between collected individuals. Sex and age
832 were included as fixed effects."
833

834 3. Line 241-2 methods - it reads as if cases in the main GWAS had to
835 have an M.tb isolate shared with another case: "(2) index patients

836 whose M. tb isolates shared a molecular fingerprint with isolates from
837 other enrolled patients". But then why are there cases with unique M.
838 tb molecular fingerprints in the case-only analysis?

839

840 **Response:**

841 We thank the Reviewer for pointing out this possible confusion. We clarify that our three
842 selection criteria were not dependent on each other. That is, if an individual satisfies one of the
843 three three conditions, it will be enrolled in the GWAS as a case. We reflect this in the main
844 manuscript with the following text:

845 "All cases were HIV-negative, culture-positive and drug-sensitive who have pulmonary
846 TB. We defined cases who were likely to have recently exposed TB, if a case satisfied at
847 least one of the three criteria: (1) exposed HHCs who developed active TB during a 12
848 month follow up period; (2) index patients whose M.tb isolates shared a molecular
849 fingerprint with isolates from other enrolled patients and (3) index patients who were 40
850 years old or younger at time of diagnosis."

851

852 4. The (negative) rare variant result should be reported in the body
853 of the main text.

854

855 **Response:**

856 We thank the Reviewer for the suggestion, and reported the rare variant result in the body of the
857 main text:

858 "We observed no significant rare variant (minor allele frequency (MAF) <1%) association
859 with TB progression after performing gene-based generalized linear mixed model
860 (Methods)."

861

862

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882 visualization of promoter capture Hi-C datasets. *Bioinformatics* **32**, 2511–2513 (2016).
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- 930 30. Cortes, A. *et al.* Major histocompatibility complex associations of ankylosing spondylitis are
931 complex and involve further epistasis with ERAP1. *Nat. Commun.* **6**, 7146 (2015).

Reviewers' Comments:

Reviewer #1:

Remarks to the Author:

I appreciate the careful and thorough responses of the authors. I feel they have substantially addressed the previous concerns through multiple additional analyses and experiments that improve the quality of the manuscript. This is an important and valuable study, which may inform future ID GWAS design. While some aspects still aren't entirely convincing, I feel some uncertainty in these kinds of studies with heterogenous populations, exposures, pathogens, etc... are to be expected. The QQ plots, especially when Native American admixture is now considered, do not show much deviation from neutral expectation, but the added permutation analysis at least provides some additional statistical justification for their association based on the calculated significance threshold, and along with the association with cases-only TB progression association ($p=0.02$), there is a fairly good confidence in the association.

I have only a few additional comments as listed below.

1) For the CRISPR/Cas9 experiments, the authors state none of the genes showed an association, but Figure S17 shows an association with GRK7. This would conflict with the ATP1B3 hypothesis and needs to be commented on in the manuscript.

2) Related, I think the IMPACT analysis, promoter capture Hi-C, EMSA in THP-1, and CRISPR/Cas9 experiments were all worthwhile to carry out, but the assignment of causal SNP and especially gene are still not fully convincing. I am not requesting additional experiments, as I feel they have done what can be reasonably expected. I think the conclusion that there are likely monocyte-specific regulatory elements in the region is valid, but the conclusion that ATP1B3 is the causal gene certainly is not well supported. I think it is important to scale-back claims, such as in the Abstract to something like "...ATP1B3 as a plausible target gene..."

3) Thank you for indicating in the response letter that EMSA is based on 3 experiments—I think readers would appreciate having that information in the figure legend for Supp. Figure 14 as well.

4) Complete GWAS summary statistics should be included as a supplemental data file or deposited into a repository such as LDHub or EBI-GWAS Catalog.

Reviewer #3:

Remarks to the Author:

The authors have adequately addressed my comments. The manuscript will be a valuable addition to the field and should be accepted. I have no further substantive concerns.

Minor points.

1. The p-value for the Crohn's h2g on line 153 main text is truncated.

2. In the CRISPR/Cas9 experiment results, the authors report no differential gene expression ($P>0.05$) in any of the 8 genes in cis to rs73226617 (line 307). The data presented in Supplementary Figure 17 suggest that GRK7 expression is significantly increased in edited THP1 clones: data which are excluded from the analysis due to the low expression of GRK7. This is made clear in the methods section, but it would be helpful to also clarify this in the figure legend (or alternatively exclude GRK7 and ZBTB38 from the figure altogether).

3. The authors hypothesise on lines 215-6 that the lack of replication in the Russian and Icelandic GWAS may be explained by: "The association signals were therefore most likely diluted due to the inclusion of reactivation cases and noninfected controls in the cohort collection." While inclusion of

non-infected controls in the Russian data may, in part, underlie dilution of a progression-specific signal in that dataset, the Icelandic GWAS controls included here were TST+. It would benefit the manuscript to have a more complete discussion of the potential reasons for lack of replication in Iceland.

REVIEWERS' COMMENTS:

Reviewer #1 (Remarks to the Author):

I appreciate the careful and thorough responses of the authors. I feel they have substantially addressed the previous concerns through multiple additional analyses and experiments that improve the quality of the manuscript. This is an important and valuable study, which may inform future ID GWAS design. While some aspects still aren't entirely convincing, I feel some uncertainty in these kinds of studies with heterogenous populations, exposures, pathogens, etc... are to be expected. The QQ plots, especially when Native American admixture is now considered, do not show much deviation from neutral expectation, but the added permutation analysis at least provides some additional statistical justification for their association based on the calculated significance threshold, and along with the association with cases-only TB progression association ($p=0.02$), there is a fairly good confidence in the association.

I have only a few additional comments as listed below.

1) For the CRISPR/Cas9 experiments, the authors state none of the genes showed an association, but Figure S17 shows an association with GRK7. This would conflict with the ATP1B3 hypothesis and needs to be commented on in the manuscript.

Response: The expression level of GRK7 was too low ($TPM < 1$) to confidently ascribe any biological significance to the differential expression. The following sentence was already included in the Method section entitled *Gene expression analysis of edited THP1 cells*: "We considered as expressed genes those with a $\log_2(TPM+1) > 1$ in at least 95% of the samples". To avoid confusion, we have excluded *GRK7* and *ZBTB38* from **Supplementary Figure 17a** and added the following text in the legend to clarify:

"Expression of six genes around rs73226617 with transcripts per million (TPM) >1 in THP1 clones, which maintained wildtype genomic sequence after expansion of single cells from bulk-edited THP1 cells compared to edited clones. P-values are derived from a linear regression model including first principal component of the gene expression profile as covariate. "

2) Related, I think the IMPACT analysis, promoter capture Hi-C, EMSA in THP-1, and CRISPR/Cas9 experiments were all worthwhile to carry out, but the assignment of causal SNP

and especially gene are still not fully convincing. I am not requesting additional experiments, as I feel they have done what can be reasonably expected. I think the conclusion that there are likely monocyte-specific regulatory elements in the region is valid, but the conclusion that ATP1B3 is the causal gene certainly is not well supported. **I think it is important to scale-back claims, such as in the Abstract to something like “...ATP1B3 as a plausible target gene...”**

Response: We have modified the abstract text per the Reviewer’s suggestion:

“With *in silico* and *in vitro* analyses we identify rs73226617 or rs148722713 as the likely functional variant and ATP1B3 as a potential causal target gene with monocyte specific function.”

3) Thank you for indicating in the response letter that EMSA is based on 3 experiments—I think readers would appreciate having that information in the figure legend for Supp. Figure 14 as well.

Response: We added the following sentence to the legend of **Supplementary Figure 14**:
“The experiment was performed on three independent batches of THP1 nuclear extracts”

4) Complete GWAS summary statistics should be included as a supplemental data file or deposited into a repository such as LDHub or EBI-GWAS Catalog.

Response: We have deposited the data. Summary statistics will be made available through the NHGRI-EBI GWAS Catalog <https://www.ebi.ac.uk/gwas/downloads/summary-statistics>. And this information is provided in the “Data Availability” section.

Reviewer #3 (Remarks to the Author):

The authors have adequately addressed my comments. The manuscript will be a valuable addition to the field and should be accepted. I have no further substantive concerns.

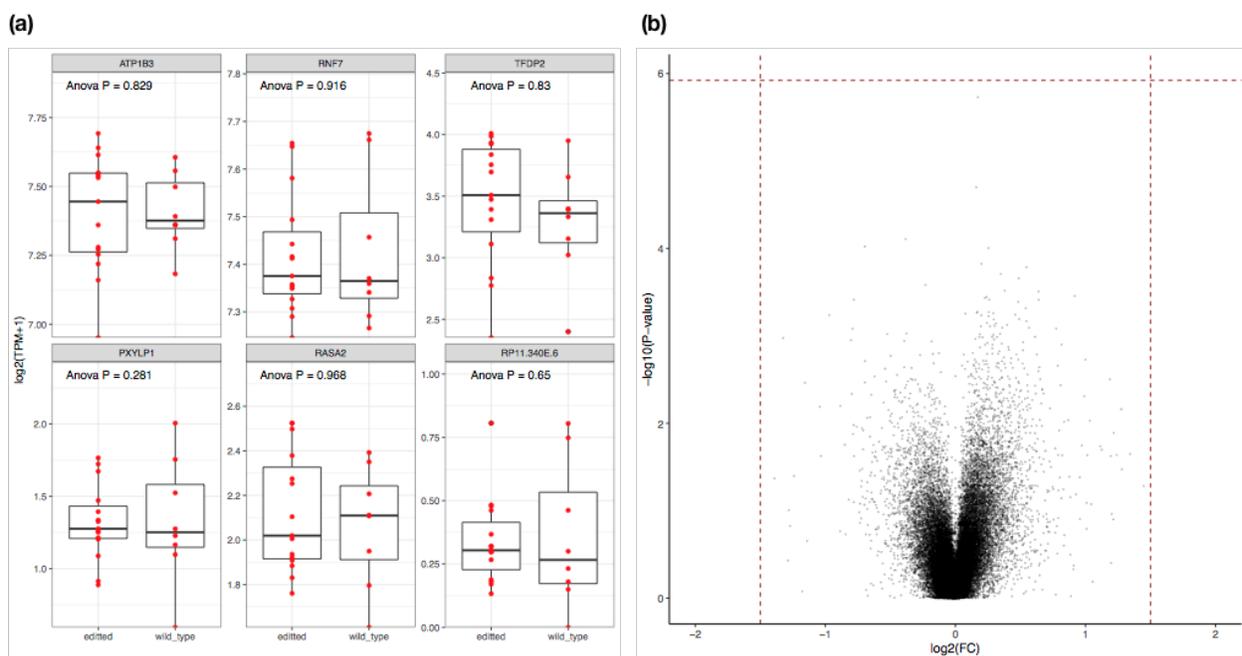
Minor points.

1. The p-value for the Crohn’s h2g on line 153 main text is truncated.

Response: We thank the Reviewer for noticing this, and has addressed this issue.

2. In the CRISPR/Cas9 experiment results, the authors report no differential gene expression ($P > 0.05$) in any of the 8 genes in cis to rs73226617 (line 307). The data presented in Supplementary Figure 17 suggest that GRK7 expression is significantly increased in edited THP1 clones: data which are excluded from the analysis due to the low expression of GRK7. This is made clear in the methods section, but it would be helpful to also clarify this in the figure legend (or alternatively exclude GRK7 and ZBTB38 from the figure altogether).

Response: We have taken the Reviewer's suggestion and excluded *GRK7* and *ZBTB38* from the figure altogether (see below).



Supplementary Figure 17. Low-input RNA-seq analysis.

(a) Expression of six genes around rs73226617 with transcripts per million (TPM) > 1 in THP1 clones, which maintained wildtype genomic sequence after expansion of single cells from bulk-edited THP1 cells compared to edited clones. P-values are derived from a linear regression model including first principal component of the gene expression profile as covariate. (b) Volcano plot from RNA-seq data showcasing global expression of transcripts enriched in wildtype (left, $n=7$) or edited (right, $n=16$) THP1 clones. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

3. The authors hypothesise on lines 215-6 that the lack of replication in the Russian and Icelandic GWAS may be explained by: “The association signals were therefore most likely diluted due to the inclusion of reactivation cases and noninfected controls in the cohort collection.” While inclusion of non-infected controls in the Russian data may, in part, underlie dilution of a progression-specific signal in that dataset, the Icelandic GWAS controls included here were TST+. It would benefit the manuscript to have a more complete discussion of the potential reasons for lack of replication in Iceland.

Response: We suspect the lack of association in Iceland is partially due to the inclusion of reactivation cases. However, other reasons are also plausible, such as difference in TB prevalence between different populations. We thus added the following sentence to the main text to have a more complete discussion of the potential reasons for lack of replication in both cohort.

“The lack of association observed in the European cohort could be due to the inclusion of reactivation TB cases and noninfected controls in the cohort collection and/or differences in TB prevalence (**Methods**).”