**Decision letter**

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**Author response**

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Subsection “Grooming duration is controlled by cycle and clock”: “The apparent absence of per from the second regulatory mechanism is consistent with the possibility that the two control mechanisms ~~are~~ operate independently.”

Discussion section: “…implying that the changes in grooming level ~~are~~ ~~not~~ may not be due to circadian defects. These data are consistent with the hypothesis that clock-independent but cyc- and clk- dependent pathways regulate the amount of programmed grooming behavior”.