Author's response to reviews

Title: Assessment of the Feasibility of High-Concentration Capsaicin Patches in the Pain Unit of a Tertiary Hospital for a Population of Mixed Refractory Peripheral Neuropathic Pain Syndromes in Non-Diabetic Patients

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Version: 2 Date: 31 July 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Tom Rowles,

Please find enclosed the revised version of the above mentioned manuscript. We have taken into account the comments made by the reviewers and the manuscript has been modified accordingly.

We enclose herein, as a supporting document, the list of changes that have been made. You will notice that the changes have been underlined.

We appreciate the thorough and relevant comments of the reviewers which, we believe, have permitted us to submit an improved manuscript. We hope that this revised version of our manuscript will be acceptable for publication in BMC anesthesiology, and we remain available for any further comments or suggestions.

Sincerely yours,

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REPLY TO REVIEWERS COMMENTS

1.- Please confirm whether your trial has been registered in a publicly available registry, and include your trial registration number in your manuscript. Please note that we only accept registration numbers issued by registries that meet all of the ICMJE criteria (http://www.icmje.org/publishing_10register.html). Registries which meet the requirements of the ICMJE include WHO Primary Registries

A: This paper provides evidences based on usual clinical practice (in real life) and in non-ideal circumstances. The ideal circumstances are the clinical trials. Our manuscript is not a trial, so we understand that is not necessary to register.

2.- We note that your tables contain sufficient information to render the participants in your study identifiable. We would therefore ask you to confirm whether consent to publish this information was obtained from the participants. If not then we may have to ask you to collate the data in your tables in a manner that renders it non-identifiable, or remove these tables altogether

A: In methods we mention that informed consent was obtained from every participant.

“This was a single-center prospective cohort study of patients treated with the capsaicin patch in the Pain Unit. This study was based on the clinical practice without any modification. All patients gave their written informed consent before the patch application for their medical information to be used for purposes of scientific research in accordance with the Ethical Committee of the participating site”

3.- Please ensure that your manuscript contains a title page

A: An error happened, now in the new version we uploaded a title page

4.- Thank you for including inclusion criteria in your manuscript. However, we would ask you to also detail any exclusion criteria that were applied to participants in your study.

A: We believe that the exclusion criteria are explained in the manuscript (Page 4, Study population, first paragraph)

“Patients with hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients were not included.”

5.- Please include details in your manuscript on how the sample size necessary to ensure statistical significance in your study was calculated.

A: In this clinical practice study no formal sample size was performed, our main objective is to give data about feasibility of capsaicin patch. In page 6 in statistical analysis we mention this important point:

“No formal sample size was performed. The sample size was defined as the whole population treated with the capsaicin patch in the first year available in our hospital.”
6.- Please ensure that separate Authors’ Contributions, Competing Interests and Acknowledgements sections are included in your manuscript. Details on the information that we would ask you to include in each of these sections, as well as formatting guidelines, can be found through the following link

A: We have modified the manuscript and added Author’s Contributions.