Author’s response to reviews

Title: Subcutaneous dextrose for rehydration of elderly patients - an evidence-based review.

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Response to Reviewer’s Report

Title: Subcutaneous dextrose for rehydration of elderly patients - an evidence-based review.

Reviewer: Brent Hodgkinson

General
1. - 4. Thanks.

Discretionary Revisions
1. Done. First sentence of paragraph 2 removed. Second sentence revised and added to paragraph 3.
2. Done.
Sentence inserted "Due to the cost of access, Embase was not searched directly, however the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (part of the Cochrane Library) was searched and it includes details of controlled trials from Embase."

Minor Essential Revisions
1. Done - thanks.

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. Done - thanks.
2. Done - thanks
3. Done.
4. Done
A comprehensive search of the literature from the last 10 years was undertaken. The identification of a systematic review published in 1997 did not restrict our search. Indeed the included article by O’Keeffe & Lavan was published prior to 1997 and was identified as being missed by the systematic review. No further papers published prior to 1997 and not included in the systematic review were identified, however a detailed search of the literature since 1993 was carried out (see search strategy).
5. Done - good point.
Data has been included where available for all significant outcomes. Reporting data for all of the large number of non-significant outcome measures reported by each of the papers would make the paper incredibly difficult to read, and would negate the purpose of providing a succinct review. Readers interested in these details can follow up the references provided.

Thanks Brent, I appreciate your time and thoughtful comments. Tari