Dear Editor-in-Chief

We appreciate the valuable comments regarding the manuscript "An in vitro evaluation of standard rotational thromboelastography in monitoring of effects of recombinant factor VIIa on coagulopathy induced by hydroxy ethyl starch". The manuscript has been revised according to the comments made by the reviewers and we have responded point-by-point to the specific comments in the following pages. We also appreciate that they are now more positive regarding publication of the manuscript.

On the following pages the specific comments made by the reviewers are responded to.

With Best Regards

Martin Engstrom Peter Reinstrup Ulf Schott

Response to comments made by Dr Michael Avidan (reviewer 1)

Dear Dr Avidan,

Thank you for your valuable comments regarding the manuscript. We have now added in vitro to the title of the manuscript in order to better describe the study. In the discussion we have revised the text to better reflect that the study is limited to study effects induced by HES. We have also removed the final sentence in order to not overemphasize the findings.

We are aware that it is difficult to distinguish between the possibilities that rFVIIa is ineffective in correcting the HES induced coagulopathy or that ROTEG fail to detect the effect. We have therefore addressed this in the discussion. However, the worsening of the ROTEG parameters in the EXTEG system induced by rFVIIa is likely to be explained by methodological problems, as it is difficult to explain why rFVIIa should worsen the coagulation.

Response to comments made by Dr Jorgen Ingerslev (reviewer 3)

The language has hopefully been improved.

With Best Regards