Author’s response to reviews

Title: Changes in fibroblast growth factor 23 levels in normophosphatemic patients with chronic kidney disease stage 3 treated with lanthanum carbonate: results of the PREFECT study, a phase 2a, double blind, randomized, placebo-controlled trial

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Thank you for the opportunity to address the comments raised by reviewer 1. Please find our responses to these requests below.

*I would suggest adding the table included in the rebuttal to the final manuscript (see table summarizing available studies concerning the effect of phosphate binder therapy on FGF23)

This table has been added (Table 3, p26), and is referenced in the Discussion (p14).

*Determination of urine volumes is not an appropriate manner evaluating completeness of 24h urinary collections. If the authors didn't determine urinary excretion of creatinine, this should be added as a limitation of the current study.

Twenty-four-hour urinary creatinine was assessed and did not differ between study populations, as mentioned in the Results (p11).

‘Serum or urinary levels of other relevant variables (urinary fractional phosphate excretion, creatinine, urea nitrogen, 25-hydroxyvitamin D, ionized calcium, CrossLaps®, iGFR and bone-specific alkaline phosphatase) are shown in Additional Table 1. No significant between-group differences were seen between weeks 0 and 12 for these factors.’

Urinary creatinine levels were not used to assess completeness of urine samples, however, and this has been added to the Discussion as a limitation (p15):

‘A second limitation was that the completeness of 24 h urinary samples was not assessed, although urinary creatinine was assessed.’