Author's response to reviews

Title: Phenytoin versus Leviteracetam for Seizure Prophylaxis after Brain Injury -
A Meta Analysis

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Mr Bongcayao,

Thank you very much for your review and comments. We are attaching the revised manuscript with our response to the minor comment mentioned in your previous correspondence.

"I think the paper is acceptable with the single minor revision being that the authors defined "early seizures" as within the first month from the time of injury, as this represents a departure from the previous use of the term "early seizures", which meant seizures within the first week after the traumatic injury."

Thank you very much for emphasizing on this. Many authors define early seizures differently and that is an issue we did face and has been mentioned in the limitations section of the manuscript. However we do agree with the reviewer that an analysis with ‘early seizures’ defined as within the first 7 days should also be done. This was done and figure 4 demonstrates the results of this subset analysis. This is also described in the Results section in the 2nd paragraph of the outcomes subheading. To clarify this, the following sentences have been added to the manuscript.

The following has been added to the ‘outcomes’ section of the methods section.
“Since there is no consensus on the definition of ‘early seizures’ we also performed a subset analysis defining ‘early seizures’ as seizures occurring within 7 days.”

The first sentence of the 2nd paragraph of the ‘outcomes’ section of the Results section has been changed to:
“We performed a subset analysis of studies in which ‘early seizures’ was defined as seizures occurring within the first 7 days”

The following is added to the limitations section.
“To overcome this limitation, we conducted the analysis using two different types definitions of ‘early seizures’; within the first month and within the first week”

We hope that these additions will make our analysis more clear.

Thank you very much. Please let us know if there is anything else that is required.

Sincerely
Dr Shahzad Shamim.
(On behalf of all authors.)