Author's response to reviews

Title: In search of quality evidence for lifestyle management and glycemic control in children and adolescents with type 2 diabetes: A systematic review

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Author's response to reviews: see over
In search of quality evidence for lifestyle management and glycemic control in pediatric type 2 diabetes: A systematic review

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Reviewers’ Comments and Authors’ Responses:

Thank-you very much for the thoughtful review of our manuscript. Below, we have included the reviewers’ comments and our accompanying responses, which we hope address the issues that were raised as well as improve the quality of our submission.

Reviewer #1: Comments for the Authors

1. The addition of another table summarizing the key components of selected studies (methods, results and limitations as well as sample characteristics) would add positively to the manuscript. Since a major goal is to support the need for future research in this important area of inquiry, the inclusion of the table would add helpful detail for researchers. In addition, the authors acknowledge that the one study that met their criteria has limitations and that the results need to be interpreted with caution. Thus, the addition of other studies reviewed in table format seems warranted.

This is a thoughtful addition to our manuscript. We have added a table (please see Table 2), which summarizes several studies that included some aspects of lifestyle and/or pharmacotherapy management of type 2 diabetes, but did not satisfy all of our inclusion criteria.

2. The authors should consider including the most recent (2010) ADA guidelines published in Diabetes Care.

We have included this reference in our manuscript.
Reviewer #2: Comments for the Authors

1. Age range needs to be included in the title

We have modified the title to include that both children and adolescents were included.

2. The results of the study should be included in the abstract with the quality index.

We have added additional results to the abstract.

3. Why only HbA1c has been taken into inclusion criteria?

We chose HbA1c to be a key inclusion criterion as it has the most clinical relevance in individuals with type 2 diabetes; indeed, this indicator is used to define the presence of type 2 diabetes and represents a fundamental measure to gauge long-term glycemic control. Although our review showed a gap in the pediatric literature, in adults, systematic reviews (i.e., Snowling et al., 2006; Thomas et al., 2006; Boule et al., 2001) have showed that lifestyle modification can impact long-term glycemic control with HbA1c as the primary outcome measure.


4. Author should include the studies which showed an effect of lifestyle modification on insulin levels.

Please see response # 3

5. Author should also use Cochrane Controlled Trials Register for the systematic review.
We thank the Reviewer for pointing this out. After reviewing our search strategy, we did indeed include the Cochrane Library, which includes the Cochrane Controlled Trials Register in our search strategy. We have added this database to our Methods section where we have identified databases searched. We apologize for this omission in our first draft.