Author's response to reviews

Title: Mode of delivery and other risk factors for Escherichia coli infections in very-low birth weight infants.

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Version: 2 Date: 5 August 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Enclosed, please find the revision version of manuscript of our work entitled: “Mode of delivery and other risk factors for *Escherichia coli* infections in very-low birth weight infants” by Agnieszka Chmielarczyk, Jadwiga Wójkowska-Mach, Dorota Romaniszyn, Paweł Adamski, Ewa Helwich, Ryszard Lauterbach, Monika Pobiega, Maria Borszewska-Kornacka, Ewa Gulczyńska, Agnieszka Kordek, and Piotr B. Heczko.

The aim of the study was to describe the epidemiological situation concerning *Escherichia coli* infections among very low birth weight neonates in Poland. The data presented in the paper should add useful knowledge about *Escherichia coli* infections. The study was based on a relatively large cohort and covered numerous aspects of such infections: risk factors, morbidity and mortality rates as far as antibiotic resistance of *E.coli* strains.

To our knowledge few data about such infections in paediatric patients is available in the European literature. The authors would also like to consider the possibility of using data on *Escherichia coli* infection in assessing the quality of perinatal care.

All of the named authors have read and approve the manuscript and also state that the whole submission is original/unpublished and has not been simultaneously submitted to any other journal.

In the revised manuscript were made the following changes:
- on the title page added e-mail addresses of all authors,
- in the abstract added two sentences in Background section,
- expanded volume Methods section,
- added one (last) sentence of Results section.

If I may be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,
Dr Agnieszka Chmielarczyk, Ph.D.