Author's response to reviews

Title: Microcytosis and possible early iron deficiency in paediatric in-patients: a retrospective audit

Authors:

Deepak N Subramanian (deepsubs@gmail.com)
Sarah Kitson (sarahkitson@doctors.org.uk)
Amit Bhaniani (amit.bhaniani@phpc.cam.ac.uk)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to re-submit our paper, ‘Microcytosis and Early Iron Deficiency In Paediatric In-Patients: A Retrospective Audit,’ to your journal, having addressed the issues that were flagged up by your reviewers.

We are very pleased that two of the reviewers are happy with the latest version of the manuscript. With regards to Dr. Pusic’s comments, we have made the following alterations:

1) The typing error on page 4 has been corrected.

2) We have used the existing reference to ‘Statistics By Example’ [19] to specifically reference the z-test (which our statistician feels would be adequate for describing the z-test), and have made the necessary amendments to the relevant paragraph in the Methods section. We have also dropped any mention of the ‘prtest’ from the Abstract.

3) We have redrawn the y-axis of the scatterplot, and have eliminated the sloped parts of the green line (the age-corrected lower MCV limit) by extending the horizontal line. We have also referenced the figures for the green line to Table 1, where they were originally derived from.

We hope that the above points considered in conjunction with our revisions have enhanced the merit of publishing our paper in the journal. We look forward to your response.

Many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Deepak Subramanian