Author’s response to reviews

Title: Gentamicin release from new commercially available bone cements in a simulated prosthesis-related interfacial gap and their antibacterial efficacy

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Dear Editor,

Thank you for the constructive, useful, and above all positive comments of your reviewers on our manuscript entitled "Gentamicin release from commercially-available gentamicin-loaded PMMA bone cements in a prosthesis-related interfacial gap model and their antibacterial efficacy" by Daniëlle Neut, Otto S Kluin, Jonathan Thompson, Henny C van der Mei, and Henk J Busscher. We have incorporated the comments to our best ability in the revised version of the manuscript that we herewith enclose. Changes have been underlined.

Specifically, we would like to give the following rebuttal:

Referee 1
This reviewer had no comments.

Referee 2
We revised the manuscript using the re-worked version given in Section (A), as suggested.

Section (B):
(1) We added one sentence in the background mentioning the publications on mechanical properties and handling characteristics of the three Palacos cements, as requested.

(2) We have discussed extensively with our statistician and we believe that for the current data the Student’s t-test is applicable, although the other tests mentioned by the reviewer may have some advantages. Therefore, we continued...
to apply the Student’s t-test in the revised manuscript.

We hope that the revised version of the manuscript on the basis of the above rebuttal will now be accepted for publication in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders. Please let us know if further revisions are necessary.

Thanking you in advance, yours sincerely

Dr. Danielle Neut