Author's response to reviews

Title: Longitudinal study of leptin levels in chronic hemodialysis patients

Authors:

Ilia Beberashvili (iliab@asaf.health.gov.il)
Inna Sinuani (sinuanii@asaf.health.gov.il)
Ada Azar (liada@bezegint.net)
Hila Yasur (iliabeber@yahoo.com)
Leonid Feldman (leonidf@asaf.health.gov.il)
Zhan Averbukh (AVERBUKHZH@asaf.health.gov.il)
Joshua Weissgarten (weissgarten@asaf.health.gov.il)

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Author's response to reviews:

To: Nehme Gabriel, M.D.
Editor-in-Chief, Nutrition Journal.

Subject: Revision - Nutrition Journal -1355444765525489.

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your letter concerning our manuscript # 1355444765525489 entitled “Longitudinal study of leptin levels in chronic hemodialysis patients”. We have substantially revised the manuscript according to the reviewers’ remarks, which we found helpful, and respond in detail to the comments, below.

We hope that you will find the new version of the manuscript to be suitable for publication in your journal.

We enclose both corrected and clean versions of the manuscript. In the corrected version, all additions are underlined in red and all deletions crossed out in blue. All figures were uploaded in TIF format at an appropriate DPI.

Sincerely yours,

Ilia Beberashvili, MD.
Nephrology Division, Assaf Harofeh Medical Center

Reviewer's report:

The authors have examined to determine whether changes of serum leptin levels are correlated with nutritional status over time in a cohort of prevalent hemodialysis patients. The study is well designed and well executed.
I have some recommendations to the authors:

- Table 1 gives some base datas. But these are not indispensable. Because you have given the data in your text. The needed data is given in Table 2. You may delete Table 1 from your manuscript.

  We removed Table 1 from the manuscript. Results section was modified accordingly (see page 11 of the corrected version).

- Table 3 and figure 2 gives us similar data. You may delete Table 3 from your manuscript.

  We removed Table 3 from the manuscript. Results section was modified accordingly (see page 12 of the corrected version).

- There are some points in Figure 3: This figure is not clear enough. And what are the 3 censored datas?

  The 3 censored data in Figure 3 represent right censoring of the data presented separately in each sex-specific tertile of leptin. However, we agree with the reviewer that the Figure 3 should be clearer and comprehensive. Therefore we changed the legend and added the number of patients at risk to Figure 3 for greater clarity.