Author's response to reviews

Title: Prospective Double-Blind Randomized Study on the Efficacy and Safety of an n-3 Fatty Acid enriched intravenous fat emulsion in Postsurgical Gastric and Colorectal Cancer Patients

Authors:

Cheng-Jen Ma (aisa.hsieh@msa.hinet.net)
Jin-Ming Wu (kptkptkpt@yahoo.com.tw)
Hsiang-Lin Tsai (chunpin870132@yahoo.com.tw)
Ching-Wen Huang (baseball5824@yahoo.com.tw)
Chien-Yu Lu (dr820188@pchome.com.tw)
Li-Chu Sun (lichsu@cc.kmu.edu.tw)
Ying-Ling Shih (ylshih@cc.kmu.edu.tw)
Chao-Wen Chen (ytljwc@yahoo.com.tw)
Jui-Fen Chuang (d790256@gmail.com)
Ming-Hsun Wu (m8101027@hotmail.com)
Ming-Yang Wang (suryang1971@hotmail.com)
Ming-Tsan Lin (linmt@ntu.edu.tw)
Jaw-Yuan Wang (cy614112@ms14.hinet.net)

Version: 3
Date: 18 December 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Response to referees

Much appreciated again for your kind efforts and assistance in our manuscript. Response to referee’s comments is as following:

Reviewer: Jay Whelan

Page 11, line 176. As requested, the authors clarified the levels of n-3 PUFAs provided (i.e., 70-130 mg/Kg BW/d). In order to duplicate this study, why is there almost a 100% difference in the range supplemented? Please provide a brief explanation to the reader understands the rationale for the range. Was there a target amount that the investigators were trying to achieve? Some explanation needs to be provided.

A: Thanks for your comments regarding this issue. Energy expenditure is calculated based on Harris-Benedict Equation and one or two bottles (usually one bottle) of lipid emulsion are administered to meet requirement of 0.8-1.5 g lipid/kg BW/day. The rest of calories needed is adjusted by glucose. Lipoplus emulsion contains ALA 4.0-8.8 g/l; EPA and DHA 8.6-17.2 g/l. So it should contain n-3 PUFAs 12.6-26 g/l (i.e. 12.6-26 mg/ml); mean is 19.3 mg/ml. Lipid provided is 0.8-1.5 g/Kg BW/day, equivalent to 4-7.5 ml/Kg BW/day of Lipoplus. As the result, we recalculate the levels of n-3 PUFAs provided should be 77.2-144.75 mg/Kg BW/day, approximate 80-140 mg/Kg BW/day (Page 11, line 175-181).

We sincerely appreciate your effort in reviewing our manuscript again and kind assistance for the improvement of the manuscript quality. They are very helpful in presenting our study in a form suitable to be published in Nutrition Journal.

Professor
Jaw-Yuan Wang, MD & PhD
Department of Surgery
Kaohsiung Medical University and Hospital
100 Shin Chuan 1st Road
Kaohsiung 807, Taiwan
Tel: 886-7-3122805
Fax: 886-7-3114679
Email: cy614112@ms14.hinet.net; jayuwa@cc.kmu.edu.tw