Author's response to reviews

Title: Postpyloric Enteral nutrition in the critically ill child with shock: a prospective observational study

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

We enclose you the article “POSTPYLORIC ENTERAL NUTRITION IN THE CRITICALLY ILL CHILD WITH SHOCK: A PROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY” that has been reformed according to the suggestion of the reviewers. We enclose the comments to the reviewers.

We hope this new revised version can be published as Original Article in the Nutrition Journal.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr Jesús López-Herce

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Referee 1

1. According the recommendation of the referee we have changed the sentence of the conclusion in the abstract.

2. In page 8 we have added the reference suggested by the referee.

3. We do not agree with the opinion of the reviewer that there are many studies that have analyzed the specific caloric energy expenditure in children with shock. Some studies have analyzed the energy expenditure in children with sepsis (Turi RA, Petros AJ, Eaton S, Fasoli L, Powis M, Basu R, Spitz L, Pierro A. Energy metabolism of infants and children with systemic inflammatory response syndrome and sepsis. Ann Surg. 2001;233:581-7), but in our knowledge there are no studies that have compared the energy expenditure of children with shock (not only with SIRS or sepsis) with other critically ill children.

   The article of the reviewer “Briassoulis G, Venkataraman S, Thompson AE. Energy expenditure in critically ill children. Crit Care Med. 2000;28:1166-72, studied the energy expenditure in 37 critically ill children, only 9 of them with sepsis. Moreover, not all of the 9 patients with sepsis suffered shock and the authors included all in the same group “All patients with sepsis and septic shock were classified as the Sepsis group”. In our opinion this article cannot be used to affirm that energy expenditure in children with shock is the same that in the other critically ill children.

Referee 4

1. We have changed the term “transpyloric” by “postpyloric” according the suggestion of the referee 4, although both terms are used in the medical literature.
2. In the page 4 we have reformed the sentence about the inclusion criteria in the study and

3. In the page 4 we have reformulate the sentence about the indications to postpyloric enteral nutrition

In the discussion we have changed the name of the author by “author et al”.