Author's response to reviews

Title: Early postoperative cognitive dysfunction and postoperative delirium after anaesthesia with various hypnotics: a double blind, prospective, randomized, controlled clinical trial - The PINOCCHIO trial -

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Goldsmith

Thank you for the peer-review feedback and the opportunity to resubmit this protocol entitled “Early postoperative cognitive dysfunction and postoperative delirium after anaesthesia with various hypnotics: a double blind, prospective, randomized, controlled clinical trial - The PINOCCHIO trial”. The feedback was extremely useful.

We have revised the manuscript according with your suggestion, modifying reference list and statistical analysis. All corrections made in the text are in bold.

Sincerely,

Federico Bilotta
   We have changed it accordingly.

2. Page 1, Addresses, Line 8. Something is missing from the [;] onwards. Where is the city and [CA] version of the state where USC is located. There should be more to the address.
   We have changed it accordingly.

3. Page 5, last Line. Insert [of] between [None] and [these].
   We have changed it accordingly.

4. Page 8, Page 2, Line 4. Remove the [s] from [costs] to read [cost].
   We have changed it accordingly.

5. Page 8, Page 2, Line 15. Rewrite as [... might be associated with a ...].
   We have changed it accordingly.

6. Page 9, Page 1, Line 1. Delete [In order] and capitalize [To] since the words are redundant in English.
   We have changed it accordingly.

7. Page 11, Lines 2 and 3. Provide references for the ASA and GCS scores. While they may be known to anaesthesiologists, they are not likely known to all readers.
   We have now added this reference in reference list and in the text.

   We have changed it accordingly.

   We have changed it accordingly.

    We have changed it accordingly.
11. P 13, p 2, l 2. Insert [(26)] after [Aldrete].
   We have change reference list and reference order in the text accordingly

   We have changed it accordingly

13. P 16, p 3, l 2. Delete the sentence [Block ... 2:2:3.]. It is not necessary to print the block size in the protocol, since some persons who make the decisions about the patient eligibility may try to use this information to break the concealment of the allocation. Clearly it should be in the paper describing the study, but not in the published protocol.
   We have delete this sentence from the manuscript

   We now added this reference both in the text and in the reference list

15. P 21, p 2, l 3. Delete [ly] from [significantly] to read [significant].
   We have changed it accordingly

16. P 25, final column. Why are 2 boxes needed for each number? This reviewer thinks 1 will be fine as long as a recorder can check inside the box clearly.
   We have changed it accordingly

17. Some of the R(eference)s looked to contain errors so they were verified with a search. Also, this reviewer prefers to have the issue numbers in Rs since the Rs are easier to find.
   We have now added the issue numbers for each of the references

18. P 29, R 12, 2 and 3. Correct the words to read [times], [anesthesia] and [multicenter]. Also insert on l 5 [(2)] after [22].
20. P 30, R 15, l 1. The title is [... and anesthesia for neurosurgery: a review.];
and on l 2, insert [(2)] after [12].

21. P 30, R 18, I 2. Correct word to [anesthesia] and on l 3, insert [(3)] after [79].

22. P 31, R 25 and 26. Insert a space between them
We have changed it accordingly

23. P 32, R 29 could not be verified. The website for SAS did not give a response as listed. In any event, the authors should be properly identified with the document you use to specify the version and manual that describes the software.

We have double checked them, to our evidence the web site addresses reported in ref 29 and 30, when pasted- without the square parenthesis- lead to the appropriate web page.

25. P 33, R 35, l 3. Correct the word to [factors] and on l 4 insert [(23)] after [34].
We have changed it accordingly

26. P 33, R 36, I 1. Correct the word to [simple] and on l 2, insert [(8)] after [59].
We have changed it accordingly