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
Rome, 06/06/2011

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
1. Provide a reference to the Dunnett test. Reference 33 does not mention the Dunnett test. Why not provide the citation to one of Dunnett’s papers such as: Dunnett CW. A multiple comparison procedure for comparing several treatments with a control. Journal of the American Statistical Association 1955;50:1096-1121. We have changed it according with your suggestion

2. The appendix still contains 2 boxes for each response, so it has NOT been changed.
We have changed it according with your suggestion

3. I checked the SAS website and still could not find the [Farrington and Manning Test] nor any reference to it. Why not quote the paper: Farrington CP and Manning G. Test statistics and sample size formulae for comparative binomial trials with null hypothesis of non-zero risk difference or non-unity relative risk. Statistics in Medicine 1990; 9, 1447-1454.
We have changed it according with your suggestion
New issues in revised paper.

1. P(age) 9, l(ine) 2. Replace [both] by [all]. There are 3 groups in this trial.
   We have changed it according with your suggestion

   We have changed it according with your suggestion

3. P 31, R 27, l 3. Insert a space to read [cognitive impairment].
   We have changed it according with your suggestion

   We have changed it according with your suggestion

5. P 32, R 33. Provide a better R. See 14 above. We have changed it accordingly
   We have changed it according with your suggestion