Author's response to reviews

Title: Effects of Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy on Intestinal Mucosal Barrier Function during Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation in a Porcine Model

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Version: 4 Date: 3 March 2014

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Version: 3 Date: 03 March 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
Reviewer's report
Title: Effects of Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy on Intestinal Mucosal
Barrier Function during Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation in a Porcine Model
Version:3 Date:18 January 2014
Reviewer: scott silvestry
Reviewer's report:
This report is a well written paper examining the effect of adding CRRT to ECMO use to attenuate its complications by altering changes at the physiologic level using porcine Intestinal Mucosal as a model.
The report is relevant, clear and the results are well presented with a few exceptions. The remainder of the paper is clear, well presented and shows a significant benefit of restoring mucosal function and structure with the addition of CRRT to ECMO in this model.
Major Compulsory Revisions: None
Minor Essential Revisions
The protocol is not clear as to the treatment of the control and sham animals "The 24 piglets weight of 27.46±4.45Kg(25-32 Kg) of either sex were randomly allocated to 4 groups: sham group(S group), control group(C group), VV-ECMO group(E group), VV-ECMO combined with CRRT group(EC group)"
I could not tell whether all but ECMO/ECMO CRRT was done on the SHAm but not the controls. This point needs to be revised.
We have revised the description of Experimental Protocol to make it more accurate and clear as the reviewer indicates.
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests: No conflicts whatsoever.