Author's response to reviews

Title: Successful management of allergy to the insulin excipient metacresol in a child with Type 1 Diabetes: a case report

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Cover Letter: Response to reviewers 20/6/12

Thank you for the review and constructive feedback. I have made efforts to address all issues as described in detail below. I will look forward to your reply.
Kind regards
Ben

Both reviewers commented on the length of the article and some of the language used.
I have made efforts to address both these issues. Both the abstract and body of the article have been refined, making them considerably shorter e.g. the abstract was 244 words now 132 words.

The description and table of dose response in the discussion section is inappropriate and because it does not really add to the case and is poorly referenced, I would recommend removing it.
- I have removed this as recommended.

Specific changes to abstract in response to reviewer 1:
- I have made all changes suggested

Specific changes to introduction in response to reviewer 1:
- I have made all changes suggested

Specific changes to case report/discussion in response to reviewer 1:
- I have made all changes suggested

The specific comment from reviewer 1:
The authors describe how they used a process of elimination to determine that metacresol was the offender. This is hidden in the text. This needs to be reworded to make it clear. An alternative would be a table with the components
of each preparation listed (this could replace the table on the concentration of metacresol which appears to be useless information).

- I have re-worded this in both the case report and in the discussion. I think this is now clearer.

The specific comment from reviewer 1:
Delete the following:
“To further support a diagnosis of metacresol allergy, a dose response relationship was observed, with the severity of localised reaction generally related to metacresol concentration (table 1). Table 1: From left to right in order of increasing severity of localised reaction/pain.”

- Deleted as suggested

The specific comment from reviewer 1:
The section following this is excessively long and needs rewriting to improve the flow.
- Extensive re-writing done with an effort to make more concise and improve flow.

In addition, the editorial team requested the following formatting changes Kindly address the following:
- Please use the term female in describing the patient’s gender in abstract and case presentation.
  - done
- Please include the ethnicity of the patient in the abstract and case presentation sections of the manuscript.
  - done
- Please include table 1 on the last page of the main manuscript and not as a figure file.
  – Whole table deleted
- Please include a figure title and legend section after the reference list
  – Whole table deleted, legend added to photos