Reviewer's report

Title: Plasma glutamine levels in patients after non-elective or elective ICU admission

Version: 3 Date: 26 July 2015

Reviewer: Kamal Medlej

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary Revisions

None

Minor Essential Revisions

1) Line 57: did you mean 6AM?

2) Line 91: please describe why we should expect a difference in glutamine levels between elective and non-elective ICU admissions.

3) Line 96: “In addition to this we aimed to compare the course over time in glutamine levels between the two groups during ICU stay “ unclear if this is part of the primary objective or a secondary objective

4) Line 117: did you mean 6AM?

5) Line 153: you are comparing patient with elective surgery to patients with acute surgery and medical patients. Please make sure you elaborate on why you believe these 2 groups should be compared

6) Line 178: Please discuss why you believe there was a difference in the 2 groups

7) Please add to the discussion any perceived advantage (if any) of the glutamine level over the APACHE IV score.

Major Compulsory Revisions

8) Line 55: please mention the primary and secondary objectives

9) Line 209: Please rephrase the following sentence :”Reflects the presence of a low plasma glutamine level a deficiency or is it an adaptive stress response.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.