Author’s response to reviews

Title: The Impact of Cathelicidin, the Human Antimicrobial Peptide LL-37 in Urinary Tract Infections

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor

BMC Infectious Diseases Editorial Office
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First of all, I would like to thank your Excellency and the BMC Infectious Diseases journal for giving us the chance to resubmit our revised manuscripts.

Below you will find our response to the remaining concerns regarding dilution of the urine and creatinine normalization. In addition, all the changes which have been made within the manuscript were indicated by highlighting. Accordingly, all concerned results have been changed and we add new figures to supports our results.

Thank you so much and your cooperation is highly appreciated!!
Editor's comments:

1. Please include a full response to the remaining concerns regarding dilution of the urine as an additional file in your manuscript. In addition please indicate within your manuscript where changes have been made with highlighting or track changes.

Response:

During the study period, 197 subjects were initially screened, among these 23 (11.7%) were excluded because they had incomplete data, or, not enough samples. All none enough samples has been substituted with other patients or control who were willing to participate.

The urinary creatinine (Ucr) levels were analyzed as done previously (33), briefly, we measured urinary creatinine colorimetrically by diluting samples 1:20 in dilution buffer from the Creatinine Assay Kit (Creatinine-J. REF. 100111, SPINREACT, S.A./SAU-Ctra. Santa Coloma, 7 E-17176 SANT ESTEVE DE BAS-Girona, Spain). Urinary creatinine calculated in mg/ml based on a standard curve. The levels of LL-37 were expressed as LL-37/creatinine ratios. Creatinine equation formula [LL-37/Ucrx100].

Urinary LL-37 level performed using the urinary creatinine (Ucr) levels were analyzed colorimetrically, we measured urinary creatinine by diluting samples 1:20 in dilution buffer from the Creatinine Assay Kit (Creatinine-J. REF. 100111, SPINREACT, S.A./SAU-Ctra. Santa Coloma, 7 E-17176 SANT ESTEVE DE BAS-Girona, Spain). Urinary creatinine calculated in mg/ml based on a standard curve. The levels of LL-37 were expressed as LL-37/creatinine ratios. Creatinine equation formula [LL-37/Ucrx100].

Urinary LL-37 level performed using [by using ELISA the Human LL-37 ELISA Kit (Hycult ®)] according to the manufacturer procedure. Final concentrations were based on a standard curve and are shown in ng/ml.

For normalization we divided the LL-37 concentration in ng/ml by creatinine in mg/ml to determine normalized LL-37 in ng/mg creatinine by using ELISA the Human LL-37 ELISA Kit (Hycult ®) according to the manufacturer procedure. Final concentrations were based on a standard curve and are shown in ng/ml.

For normalization we divided the LL-37 concentration in ng/ml by creatinine in mg/ml to determine normalized LL-37 in ng/mg creatinine.

Your cooperation is highly appreciated.
Kind regards and all the best,

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