Author’s response to reviews

Title: The role of tonsillectomy in the Periodic Fever, Aphthous stomatitis, Pharyngitis and cervical Adenitis syndrome; a literature review

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The Editor
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Manuscript submission

We hereby re-submit the manuscript The role of the tonsils in the PFAPA syndrome for eventual publication in BMC Ear, Nose and Throat Disorders. At the request from the editor we now include a PRISMA checklist.

The Periodic Fever, Aphthous stomatitis, Pharyngitis and cervical Adenitis (PFAPA) syndrome is the most common of the autoinflammatory syndromes in childhood. Symptoms may highly mimic recurrent tonsillitis, and tonsillectomy may be an option for cure in these patients. It is therefore of high interest for otolaryngologists to be aware of and updated on this syndrome, to avoid overlooking the syndrome, and to be aware of the reason for tonsillectomy in these patients.

The results of the study reveal two RCTs and several case series. Two Cochrane studies have already been published based on the RCTs, but the case series have not been presented systematically. We have performed a literature review, and not a systematic review or metaanalysis, which we consider relevant according to studies which have been published. We therefore consider the PRISMA guidelines only partly applicable for this type of review, as stated in the checklist.
The authors have no competing interests, both have contributed significantly to the manuscript, and both have approved the manuscript for submission. The content of the manuscript has not been published before and is not submitted for publication elsewhere.

On behalf of the authors

Jostein Førsvoll