Reviewer’s report

Title: Glycemic control with a basal-bolus insulin protocol in hospitalized diabetic patients treated with glucocorticoids: a retrospective cohort study

Version: 0 Date: 15 Feb 2018

Reviewer: Glynis Ross

Reviewer's report:

Thank you.

Management of steroid induced hyperglycaemia remains challenging.

Please clarify: as part of the protocol is all longacting insulin given in the evening?

Background: 1st sentence is not a proper sentence- suggest add 'so' after (1,2,3); para 3...add 'a' before paucity

Results: 'diabetes' treatment rather than 'diabetic treatment'

Discussion: last para: BURT"s not Bursts' study

The high number of patients in both groups not receiving insulin as per protocol-need comment/discussion

Figure 2: glucocorticoid (not glucocorticosteroid)

Figure 3: pls clarify: 'in the morning'...is this prior to breakfast?

'during mealtime'...what does that mean?

Figure 4: very unclear; not treated with insulin etc needs clarification that this is referring to pre-admission diabetes management...indeed what is the heading for this figure? Did the findings of the study suggest that the prandial calculation was effective incl at each meal? would a higher ratio at lunch/afternoon work better? did the study help guide any changes to the protocol to better control the glycaemia?

Table 1: Pls recheck the data in 'prior treatment'...should 'oral hypoglycaemic and insulin' be changed to 'oral hypoglycaemia and/or insulin' given that the numbers suggest the oral hypoglycaemic only gp were included in the second gp.

Table 2: Shouldn't 'West Nail' Encephalitis be "West Nile' Encephalitis?
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

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