Author’s response to reviews

Title: The Effects of Two Vitamin D Regimens on Ulcerative Colitis Activity Index, Quality of Life and Oxidant/Anti-Oxidant Status

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The Effects of Two Vitamin D Regimens on Ulcerative Colitis Activity Index, Quality of Life and Oxidant/Anti-Oxidant Status

Nutrition Journal

Dear Dr. Clare Collins,

Nutrition Journal

Thank you very much for your email regarding the evaluation of our manuscript and the opportunity to revise and resubmit the paper. We have taken each comment very seriously, and now submit a revised version in response to the reviewers’ comments.

Once again, thank you for inviting us to respond to the reviewers' comments and revise our manuscript.
Reviewer reports:

Reviewer #1: The authors have made significant revisions. For completeness the authors may not be aware of publications that have reported the actual effect of inflammatory bowel disease on vitamin D absorption. The references that they provide are only an indirect measurement of vitamin D absorption. See Farraye et al Inflamm Bowel Dis 2011;17:2116-2121; Lo et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 1985;42:644-649 which they may want to include in their discussion and reference list.

Response: Thanks for your suggestion. They were discussed in lines 212-214.

Reviewer #2: There is no strict relationship between intestinal vitamin D absorption and the vitamin D status in patients, there are other causes could explain the hypovitaminosis D in IBD patients: first of all low sunlight exposure, but also inflammation (that causes conversion of 25(OH) D to 1,25(OH)2D in the intestine, not malabsorption). 1,2 So you can't write malabsorption due to inflammation in the first line.


Response: Thanks for your comments. The first line is removed, and other causes of vitamin D deficiency in IBD are discussed in lines 214-219.

You should not report the mean dose/die of azathioprine, steroids, or mesalamine, but the percentage of patients taking azathioprine and steroids in that period (12 weeks). For example, in low and high dose group …% and …% respectively were taking azathioprine +/- steroids… (p value).

Response: It is added as recommended in lines 179-182.
You should write in limitations the absence of healthy people as controls and the dosage of systemic phlogosis markers (sccai is subjective).

Response: They are added in lines 287-282.

The extension of the disease should be reported (proctitis, left or total colitis)

Response: Thanks for your comment. It is added in table 1.

I appreciate a lot the 2 x2 table with p values within and between groups in table n 2 and 3. It should be done also for table 4 and 5. These last are not understandable.

Response: Tables 4, and 5 are revised as recommended.

Ibuprofen not IBOPROFEN

Response: Thanks for your notification. It is corrected.