Author’s response to reviews

Title: Enteral Nutrition protects Children undergoing Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation from Blood Stream Infections

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Author’s response to reviews:

Thank you very much for having reviewed our manuscript entitled “Enteral Nutrition protects Children undergoing Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation from Blood Stream Infections”.

We are really grateful for your comments and suggestions aimed at improving the quality of the manuscript. We have modified the paper in accordance with these criticisms.

We have also prepared an itemized point-by-point reply to the comments raised by the Reviewer. We hope that these revisions improve the paper and that you and the reviewers now consider it worthy of publication in Nutrition Journal.

Reply to Reviewer 3:

• “The issues pointed out in the previous review were systematically addressed by the authors, resulting in a much-improved manuscript. This is highly commendable.”
First of all, we would like to thank the Reviewer for this comment.

•  “Lines 4 & 19: The spelling of Pediatrics should be corrected to Paediatrics (as in lines 7, 24, 25) for the sake of uniformity.”
Corrected

•  “Line 23 (Abstract): 'very' can be deleted. i.e. only few studies……”
Corrected

•  “Line 114: Delete the word 'for' between 'consent' and 'authorizing'.”.
Corrected

•  “Line 120: Repetition of 'and' in the sentence. Delete 'and' before donor i.e. disease, donor and stem cell source.”
Corrected

•  “Line 134: 'proposed' doesn't seem to be an appropriate word in that context. Consider substituting with a more appropriate word e.g. applied..”
We changed the verbs according to the reviewer’s suggestion.

•  “Line 141: 5 should be written as 5.0 to ensure uniformity of decimal points.”
Corrected

•  “Line 143: *Typographical error: die instead of day *Standard abbreviation for gram is g or gm, but not gr.”.
Corrected. We would like to thank the Reviewer for this comment

•  “Line 148: Delete 'the child's i.e. Depending on age, the patient……”
We prefer the current phrasing, to better underline the difference of compliance in the paediatric population
• “Lines 181-182: Can be rephrased as: Weight loss >10% of baseline value was considered significant. i.e. delete 'Every patient who experienced' and 'his/her'.”
Corrected

• “Lines 220-221: is a repetition of the statement in Lines 198-199 of Statistical analysis, and should be deleted from the Results section. The statement in Results can then be modified e.g. The following variables were tested in the univariate analysis for association with the incidence of BSI: age, diagnosis…..”
Corrected

• “Line 243: Delete '3-4' i.e. in terms of grade and duration of…..”
We found no difference in the incidence of grade 3-4 of mucositis in the two groups. We did not analyze the correlation between the type of nutritional support and mucositis grade.

• “Lines 247-249: should be rephrased: The last 3 words 'and nutritionally adequate' should be deleted from the end of the sentence and moved in between 'feasible' and 'method' i.e. ….showed that EN was a feasible and nutritionally adequate method of nutritional support…..”
Corrected