Author's response to reviews

Title: Early rehabilitation using a passive cycle ergometer on muscle morphology in mechanically ventilated critically ill patients in the Intensive Care Unit (MoVe-ICU study): study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sirs,

First, we want to thank the considerations that certainly contributed to the finish of our protocol.

Below are some observations, but we decided to do the explanations directly in the text.

In addition to the important considerations reviewer, all text was increased, including language review and use of the CONSORT statement.

We hope we have been clear enough and put ourselves at your disposal for any new considerations.

Sincerely,

Laura Jurema dos Santos

ANSWERS

# primary objective of the study was adequate throughout the text

# it was initially carried out a pilot study with 10 patients to, from this calculate the sample size (it has been recalculated in this review, is estimated 14 patients/group)

# it was suitable for MV

# the intervention was performed 7 days a week and it was more detailed in the text

# it was adequate early rehabilitation term as suggested, and early term is defined in the literature as the first 24-48 hours after admission to the ICU, which shall be determined as inclusion criteria for the study

# MoVe-ICU is the name given to the study group using the initial of Morphology in Mechanically Ventilated... in ICU

# on these keywords were used MeSH terms (PubMed index)

# it used the term supine

# suggested references were added