Author's response to reviews

Title: Nutritional vitamin D supplementation and health-related outcomes in hemodialysis patients: a protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis

Authors:

Anita Mehrotra (anita.mehrotra@mssm.edu)
Wai-Yin Leung (WaiYin.Leung@mountsinai.org)
Tannia Joson (Tannia.Joson@mssm.edu)

Version: 3  Date: 8 December 2014

Author's response to reviews: see over
December 5, 2014

Systematic Reviews Editorial Board

Dear Editorial Board:

Attached please find our revised manuscript, “Nutritional vitamin D supplementation and health-related outcomes in hemodialysis patients: a protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis” to be considered for publication in Systematic Reviews. We have responded to the handling editor’s comments/requests below:

"Thank you for resubmitting this manuscript. Please can you include information about the potential to include non-randomised studies in the "study design" section (around line 131) and the "inclusion criteria" section (around line 155). The authors have also not addressed the question about what constitutes a "high quality" RCT (line 131) - at the moment this remains undefined, but will affect the decision to include non-randomised studies.

Thank you for the suggestion. We have now added this information in both the "study design" and "inclusion criteria" sections. We have eliminated the language "high-quality" RCT since we are now including all RCTs of nutritional vitamin D repletion. Details regarding planned quality assessment are provided on page 8.

For numbers under 10, please use text rather than numerals."

We have done this --- thank you.

We thank you again for your consideration of our manuscript. We look forward to hearing your response.

Sincerely,

Anita Mehrotra MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York
USA