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

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Author's response to reviews:

We thank the Editor-in-Chief for the constructive comments regarding our submission:

"In the abstract the authors state use of RCTs only. In the body of the protocol (Methods section) the authors note the possibility of needing to include non-randomized trials. Yet the Risk of Bias assessment is only reported for RCTs. I'd recommend the authors review the EPOC approach for including non-randomized trials. This will be something to reflect upon for the methods and proposed analysis."

Please note, we have reviewed the EPOC approach and have now included this in our approach in the Methods section (see "Types of Studies" and "Quality Assessment" sub-sections). We thank you for the suggestion and hope to hear back from the journal soon.

Thank you,
Anita Mehrotra MD, MS