Author’s response to reviews

Title: Pediatric Intensive Care Stress Ulcer Prevention (PIC-UP): A protocol for a pilot randomized trial

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1. Page 7, line 17: “of” is missing. (….feasibility in some the centres that will participate in the large trial and make…)

Thanks, we have fixed this.

2. Collapse the first two inclusion criteria into 1 point as they both relate to age.

Thanks, we have combined these.

3. The exclusion criteria is extremely long and can be shortened. It is important to explain why people who have some of these characteristics will be excluded. What is the rationale?

We are uncertain which of these can be excluded, but would welcome any advice. We have combined some of the individual items and added a brief explanation for some of the exclusion criteria to provide the reader with rationale.
4. Delete point 10 of the exclusion criteria.
   
   We have removed this.

5. Under trial intervention, in this statement: “Participants will be randomized to intravenous pantoprazole or matching placebo once daily”, please clarify that the placebo will be identical to the pantoprazole if that is what you mean, and that participants are not randomized every day.
   
   We have changed “matching” to “identical” and changed to “randomized to receive intravenous…”

6. Page 13, line 21: “as” is missing. (….present the clinical outcomes a single cohort…) 
   
   We have added the missing “as”.