

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your constructive and honoring comments concerning our manuscript. We have taken into account your and reviewers' comments and made the necessary corrections.

Reviewer #1:

In this interesting review, Akbulut and Yesildemir present a very comprehensive review of the nutritional approach in HSCT. The manuscript is overall comprehensive and well written. There are some points that the authors could address to get a more compelling paper. 1. The title does not reflect the content of the manuscript. Although they allude to COVID-19 pandemic in the abstract, introduction, the first part of the main text and the conclusions, in most of the subheadings, they do not mention COVID-19 at all. The manuscript seems to be about nutritional approach in HSCT in general. It would help if they add any additional available information about COVID-19 or if they specify that no specific information about COVID-19 is available. Otherwise, I suggest that they modify the title because it may be misleading. 2. There are some repetitive parts. The paper could be more concise, and it would help with clarity. Minor points: 1. By preparation regimen, do they mean conditioning? 2. They should define what ESPEN stays for.

Answer to Reviewer 1

Thank you for your valuable contribution. We think our article is more valuable thanks to your comments.

1. We agree that the title does not fully reflect scope of the article. However, the article includes sections on the COVID-19 pandemic. For this reason, we have not completely removed the phrase COVID-19 from the title. We have revised the title as

"An overview of nutritional approach in Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation (HSCT): COVID-19 update".

2. We admit that introduction section is quite long. Therefore, we removed some information from the introduction. We corrected the repetitive parts of the article based on your suggestion. We changed the preparation regimen to conditioning regimen.

Reviewer #2:

Thank you for the well written article. 1) I would like to comment regarding the length of the article. There is a lot of room left in terms of making the article more concise and too the point. While the scientific value of the nutritional support of patients undergoing HSCT is well received, the introduction is lengthy and mostly explains what we already know about COVID 19 as well as HSCT. I find that the lengthy explanation of the whole process and steps regarding HSCT added little value to the article on nutrition support aside from reminding the viewers the leucopenic state patients endure particularly during conditioning. With over 10000 words, I fear the readers would not be able to concentrate at the important scientific points later in the article. 2)Figure 1 shows an arrow with the words SARSCOV-2 in the middle but I don't believe COVID 19 is related to the pathogens seen. The references were from articles regarding HSCT. I suggest to replace this misleading heading or omit it completely. 3)Some remaining grammatical errors, strike out words which have not been removed, as well as difference in font sizes for references (eg. [21]). Please standardize them. 4)The relevance of the title is debatable as the main body of the article is regarding nutrition with regards to HSCT. The COVID 19 pandemic essentially did not alter the nutritional needs of the patients undergoing HSCT and the only point noting is the table provided. However, overall it did educate me on nutritional support and I enjoyed it.

Answer to Reviewer 2

Thank you for your valuable contribution. We think our article is more valuable thanks to your comments.

1. We have removed the following information from the introduction section.

"The HSCT procedure starts with the mobilization and harvesting phase, which includes the starting of the disease, donor selection, stem cell mobilization and collection (for autologous recipients). The next period is the conditioning regimen phase. The use of chemotherapy, radiotherapy and combinations of these therapies as antineoplastic along with immunosuppressive agents before autologous or allogeneic transplantation is called a "conditioning regimen (myeloablative or non-myeloablative)" [9].

The conditioning regimen causes many metabolic and nutritional changes in patients. Therefore, these patients become sensitive to both infections as well as malnutrition, as mentioned above [9]. The period after the conditioning regimen is the reinfusion phase in which the patients are given a progenitor hematopoietic stem cell infusion. The post-infusion process is divided into three as pre-engraftment (0-30 days) (in some sources 0-20 days), early post-engraftment (31-100 days) (in some sources 21-100 days) and late post-engraftment (>100 days) [10]."

2. We completely removed the word SARSSCOV-2 from Figure 1.

3. We edited the font differences in the references.

4. We agree that the title does not fully reflect scope of the article. However, the article includes sections on the COVID-19 pandemic. For this reason, we have not completely removed the phrase COVID-19 from the title. We have revised the title as "An overview of nutritional approach in Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation (HSCT): COVID-19 update".

Science Editor

1 Scientific quality: The manuscript describes a Minireview of the Nutritional approach in Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation. The topic is within the scope of the WJSC. (1) Classification: Grade B and Grade C; (2) Summary of the Peer-Review Report: The manuscript is overall comprehensive and well written. There are some points that the authors could address to get a more compelling paper. The questions raised by the reviewers should be answered; (3) Format: There are 4 tables and 1 figure; (4) References: A total of 78 references are cited, including 33 references published in the last 3 years; (5) Self-cited references: There are 2 self-cited references. 2 Language evaluation: Classification: Grade B and Grade B. The manuscript is reviewed by a English editor. 3 Academic norms and rules: No academic misconduct was found in the Bing search. 4 Supplementary comments: This is an invited manuscript. No financial support was obtained for the study. The topic has not previously been published in the WJSC. 5 Issues raised: (1) The “Author Contributions” section is missing. Please provide the author contributions; (2) The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor; (3) For PMID and DOI numbers of references from English-language journals, please ensure PMID and DOI numbers in the square brackets. PMID numbers are not required. 6 Recommendation: Conditional acceptance.

Answer to Science Editor

Thank you for your comments. “Author Contributions” section have been added. Original figures have been added as a PowerPoint file. The references have been edited including all PMID and DOI numbers.