

Dear Editor,

Many thanks for your interest in our paper and for the insightful comments.

We agree that vitamin D deficiency and supplementation has not been shown to have a prognostic role in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, however it remains a topic of keen interest and there was a theory that in the randomised control trial the dose of vitamin D was subtherapeutic.

Our study is not looking to show causality between vitamin D deficiency and abdominal tuberculosis, rather to identify an association in abdominal tuberculosis, which has not been previously reported, something which can guide future studies.

Our study was not designed to investigate the symptoms, treatment and outcomes of patients with abdominal tuberculosis, more to look at the demographics and investigations, hence why we do not have this information available.

In the patients with positive tuberculosis culture who did not have endoscopy, paracentesis or surgery, the samples were obtained from other sources for example radiological biopsies, swabs and peritoneal dialysis fluid.

Yours sincerely,

Authors