6 June 2021

Lian-Sheng Ma
Editor-in-Chief
Baishideng Publishing Group Inc

Dear Dr Ma and Reviewers,

Thank you for your kind comments. I have made the required changes as detailed below.

Sincerely,

Kay Choong See
National University Hospital, Singapore

Reviewer #1

This is a nicely written review regardig glycemic control in critically ill patients. However, hypoglycemia tresholds are different in non diabetic and diabetic patients thus further clarification and definition in DM and non DM patiets is needed regarding hypoglycemic target related outcomes.

Reply: Thank you for your comment. In diabetic patients, compared to non-diabetic ones, autonomic and neuroglycopenic symptoms may occur at higher blood glucose levels. However, from the critical care perspective, using mortality as the outcome of interest, the hypoglycemic thresholds of diabetic and non-diabetic patients do not differ (see the references below). This statement of clarification has been included in the section "Empirical evidence for glycemic thresholds in ICU".

References:

1. *Investigators N-SS, Finfer S, Liu B, Chittock DR, Norton R, Myburgh JA, McArthur C, Mitchell I, Foster D, Dhingra V, Henderson WR, Ronco JJ, Bellomo R, Cook D, McDonald E, Dodek P, Hebert PC, Heyland DK, Robinson BG. Hypoglycemia and risk of death in critically ill patients. The New England journal of medicine 2012; 367: 1108-1118 [PMID: 22992074 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1204942]*
2. *D'Ancona G, Bertuzzi F, Sacchi L, Pirone F, Stringi V, Arcadipane A, Bellazzi R, Pilato M. Iatrogenic hypoglycemia secondary to tight glucose control is an independent determinant for mortality and cardiac morbidity. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg 2011; 40: 360-366 [PMID: 21256761 DOI: 10.1016/j.ejcts.2010.11.065]*
3. *Graffagnino C, Gurram AR, Kolls B, Olson DM. Intensive insulin therapy in the neurocritical care setting is associated with poor clinical outcomes. Neurocrit Care 2010; 13: 307-312 [PMID: 21086066 DOI: 10.1007/s12028-010-9469-4]*

4. *Durao MS, Marra AR, Moura DF, Almeida SM, Fernandes CJ, Akamine N, Hidal JT, Santos OF. Tight glucose control versus intermediate glucose control: A quasi-experimental study. Anaesth Intensive Care 2010; 38: 467-473 [PMID: 20514954 DOI: 10.1177/0310057X1003800309]*

Reviewer #2

A nice and detailed mini-review focusing on a topic of exceptional interest. I do not have any comments to the author.

Reply: Thank you.