

Current Updates in Aging

Author Response

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Article Title: Management and Evaluation of the Pain in the elderly patients with Chronic Critical Illness: A Systematic Review

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Review Comment: This study provides a systematic review of the literature pertaining to pain assessment in the elderly admitted in ICU. Pain is an important component of those conditions and therefore it is significant to establish standard protocols. This study addresses the issue. Therefore this reviewer has only minor concerns:

In the methods section, NIH criteria for CUI diagnosis must be described in more detail.

Author Response: We thank the Reviewer for his comments. According to the reviewer suggestion about CCI diagnosis, we added “prolonged mechanical ventilation on the basis of coding as either ICD-9-96.72 (mechanical ventilation > 96 h) plus an ICU length of stay of at least 21 days or classification in DRG 541/542 (tracheotomy for a condition other than head, neck, or face disease)”, on page 3.

Review Comment: The initials of the single reviewer that examined abstract should be provided and also the initials of the authors that categorized articles.

Author Response: We added initials of the single reviewer and the authors that categorized article, on page 3.

Review Comment: References need to be re-formatted as are indicated by numbers in the text but numbers are missing in the references section.

Author Response: We re-formatted the references in the body text and in the Reference section.

Review Comment: The 29 studies that were selected should be properly indicated in the text (a table for example) or in the figure legend. I have read this submission. I believe that I have an appropriate level of expertise to confirm that it is of an acceptable scientific standard, however we have significant reservations, as outlined above.

Author Response: According to the reviewer comment and suggestion, we created a table (Table 1) in which the selected studies were shown.