

Dear Prof Beattie

Many thanks for your recent review of our manuscript. We have made some amendments as detailed below in response to the comments made. In addition, we have attached a revised version with tracked changes and a clean copy. We hope this has further strengthened the manuscript.

Editor(s)' Comments to Author:

Please reduce to 60 references.

Response: Thank you for this comment. The reference list has now been reduced to 60.

Reviewer 3:

I have one small comment to make, which the authors can choose to add into the manuscript. On page 10, the authors discuss the importance of calcium and vitamin D supplementation with steroids. It may also be worth discussing risk of steroid-induced diabetes and the need to monitor blood glucose levels with these patients and recommendations of whether patients should be put on a PPI whilst on steroids.

Response: Thank you for this comment. In the corticosteroids section we have now included the sentence “The physicians should be aware of the potential adverse effects associated with corticosteroid use.” At the end of the same paragraph, we have also added “Co-prescription of a proton pump inhibitor (PPI) should not be routinely considered unless there is a high risk of gastrointestinal bleeding or active peptic ulcer disease. The risk of steroid-induced hyperglycaemia (or even steroid-induced diabetes) should be acknowledged and mitigated by regular measurement of capillary blood glucose and an assessment of overall glycaemic control by way of HbA1c.”

As well as the changes above, there have been some minor amendments primarily for typos and abbreviations as highlighted in the tracked changes document.

We hope the revised manuscript has addressed the comments satisfactorily.

Yours sincerely,

Sreedhar Subramanian
On behalf of all co-authors