



Reply to the letter to the editor regarding “The effect of electrolyte balance on the voice in hemodialysis patients”

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We appreciate the detailed and valuable comments on our previously published article. In this study, it was determined that uric acid was the agent providing reduced vocal cord vibration, Na⁺ was the agent increasing the difference between vibration waves, and creatinine was the agent increasing the NHR [1].

The erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) can be affected even when there is no inflammation [2]. Although ESR increases in association with anaemia, when there is polycythemia, ESR shows a tendency to reduce [3]. The hemoglobin level of the patients included in the study was in the range of 9–16.6 g/dl. Therefore, the effect of the ESR level was not taken into consideration. Additionally, our study was performed with the same group instead of healthy controls; the conditions that were causing inflammation do not change.

In uric acid analysis, there are various methods such as colorimetric, electrochemical and fluorescence methods. The error rate of uric acid measurements made with the colorimetric test has been determined to be high [4]. Another study has shown that measurements obtained with uric acid oxidation are the same as colorimetric measurements [5]. Reliable data have been obtained with measurements based on chemiluminescence identification following a reaction with hydrogen peroxide [6, 7]. The laboratory test results of the dialysis patients in the study were obtained with the

kinetic method, based on chemiluminescence obtained with uric acid peroxidation.

Acetaminophen is known to greatly increase the effect of several drugs by inhibiting the enzymatic system [8]. The use of acetaminophen has been shown to be proportional to the uric acid ratio [9]. However, as the study patients were asked about medications they were taking and other chronic diseases, the relationship between the voice and medications used and disease associations was not examined. All the authors agree on this point and accept that it is a limitation of the study.

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Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Ethical approval This paper does not contain any studies with human participants or animals.

Informed consent No humans were involved in this author’s reply.

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