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# Clinical Nutrition ESPEN

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## Letter to the Editor

### Reply– Letter to the editor



Thank you for your interest in our article entitled, “The impact of early enteral nutrition on pediatric acute respiratory failure.” While we agree with the reader’s comments that hospital acquired infections (HAI) can increase hospital length of stay, that was not an area of focus in our study. However, by utilizing data from our epidemiology department, we have been able to confirm that there were no patients in either group that had a HAI.

In regards to regression analysis, multiple regression is an option to investigate outcomes after transformation on natural log scale to meet normality assumption. That being said, we were interested in number of days (discrete count of days) rather than the portion of day (continuous) in assessment of length of ventilation, PICU length of stay, and overall length of stay. It is anticipated that linear regression of natural log transformed (normalized) data would produce similar results to those found by use of Poisson regression. An independent t-test on the natural log transformed

hospital and PICU LOS indeed showed similar significance of nutrition intervention effect ( $p = .009$  and  $p = .011$ , respectfully).

We hope this addresses the reader’s concerns.

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