



PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics

Manuscript NO: 41729

Title: Prevention of necrotizing enterocolitis in premature infants – an updated review

Reviewer’s code: 03260935

Reviewer’s country: United States

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-08-25

Date reviewed: 2018-08-27

Review time: 2 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I think the comment that enteral feedings are among risk factors for NEC is misleading. I would rewrite this to say lack of enteral feedings. I would include p values when discussing results of prior studies. I like the section that discusses pasteurized donor human milk and agree that the statement about poor growth should be included.



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There should probably be a bit more information about how to combat the poor growth since it is considered more ideal than preterm formula in terms of preventing NEC but is associated with lower growth rates. I am glad to see the research on this topic compiled. I wrote a review on it but it was close to 10 years ago now.

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Google Search:

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- Duplicate publication
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- [Y] No

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics

Manuscript NO: 41729

Title: Prevention of necrotizing enterocolitis in premature infants – an updated review

Reviewer’s code: 00283588

Reviewer’s country: Israel

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-08-25

Date reviewed: 2018-09-05

Review time: 11 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not	language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision	topic of the manuscript:
publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> General
			<input type="checkbox"/> No expertise
			Conflicts-of-Interest:
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
			<input type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This is an excellent review that is well written, up to date and has well balanced recommendations

INITIAL REVIEW OF THE MANUSCRIPT



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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics

Manuscript NO: 41729

Title: Prevention of necrotizing enterocolitis in premature infants – an updated review

Reviewer’s code: 00589242

Reviewer’s country: Italy

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-08-25

Date reviewed: 2018-09-07

Review time: 13 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language	(High priority)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	<input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of	(General priority)	Peer-reviewer’s expertise on the
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publish	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced
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			Conflicts-of-Interest:
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			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Some English editing is needed. Is this meant to be a review article? If so, how were the various papers identified? Please clarifier research method. After the Introduction section, the purpose of the research should be written. A discussion is needed summarizing what research still needs to be done -- what are the gaps in knowledge and



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what further studies are needed? What are the limitations to the identified studies?

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics

Manuscript NO: 41729

Title: Prevention of necrotizing enterocolitis in premature infants – an updated review

Reviewer’s code: 04351557

Reviewer’s country: Italy

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2018-08-25

Date reviewed: 2018-09-10

Review time: 16 Days

SCIENTIFIC QUALITY	LANGUAGE QUALITY	CONCLUSION	PEER-REVIEWER STATEMENTS
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept	Peer-Review:
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SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dr. Jin and colleagues aimed at summarizing the results of recent clinical trials and meta-analyses that support some of the existing clinical practices for reducing the risk of NEC in premature infants. Only three interventions have been studied by the authors: human milk feeding, probiotics and antibiotic prophylaxis. The main flaw of this study



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is the fact that the authors did not report on other potentially important measures, for example: the use of fortifiers and the type of fortifier to be used/avoided; the utility (or not) of minimal enteral feeding; the speed of feeding advancement; the early or late initiation of feeds; the identification of infants at increased risk for NEC and the application of preventive measures in this subgroup vs all newborns. Several RCTs have been published on these themes, and a review of these would be very useful for the clinician. The authors state that “the costs of probiotics is so low”. They should specify what product are they referring to and the actual cost. Are they referring to probiotics with clear benefits or to home-made probiotics from yoghurt? Some words (i.e. mystery) are out of context and not applicable to present knowledge. The authors should rather briefly discuss the main pathophysiologic factors so far documented or proposed, and show potential controversies between them. Mystery is maybe applicable to some humanistic disciplines. There are some typos and grammatical errors in the manuscript.

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