Reply to Messori et al

TO THE EDITOR—We appreciate very much the elegant approach Dr Messori [1] and his colleagues have taken to our meta-analysis [2]. By applying a risk difference analysis, they were able to quantify the confidence intervals around the differences between the nephrotoxicity risks in both comparisons and, thereby, provide further evidence that equipoise exists around the risk of nephrotoxicity from lipid emulsion and liposomal preparations of amphotericin B. We had considered using such an approach but were reticent about trying to be too quantitative in our comparisons of the available studies because of the heterogeneity in treatment duration and total dose of drugs used from study to study. There were also variations in the methods by which the extemporaneous solutions of amphotericin were produced by different investigators. Taking these differences into account, we were more comfortable with our less quantitative approach. Nonetheless, we were pleased to see the consistency between the 2 analytical approaches and believe their analysis also supports the premise that a direct comparison of these 2 amphotericin preparations is warranted. We thank them for their comments.
Note

Potential conflicts of interest. All authors: No reported conflicts. All authors have submitted the ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest. Conflicts that the editors consider relevant to the content of the manuscript have been disclosed.

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References


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