LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Reply to comment on Sleeve Gastrectomy Versus Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass in the Elderly: 1-Year Preliminary Outcomes in a Randomized Trial (BASE Trial)

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Dear editor,

It was with great satisfaction that I read the letter from Facchiano et al. [1], published in the June 2021 issue, about our paper [2]. Despite bringing once again the discussion on such an important matter as the risk/benefit assessment of bariatric surgery in the elderly, they focus on the lack of data on complications and surgical morbidity, which would invalidate any conclusion presented in the paper.

It is essential to highlight that this study had, as its primary outcome, the analysis of surgical morbidity and that these data were previously published [3] and cited in the article to which the letter refers (reference 11). On the other hand, this new publication brings attention to our secondary outcomes, such as weight loss, control of comorbidities, the evolution of functional capacity, and nutritional deficiencies. To date, we have published data referring to the 1-year follow-up. Soon, we intend to publish 3-year data, with outcomes not yet presented.

We were pleased with the attention aroused by our small study, the first prospective randomized trial in the elderly population with obesity comparing the two most performed bariatric surgical procedures. We hope to keep motivating more bariatric surgeons to study and debate this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Declarations

Conflict of Interest The authors declare no competing interests.

References

1. Facchiano E, Iannelli A, Lucchese M Letter to the Editor: Sleeve Gastrectomy Versus Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass in the Elderly: 1-Year Preliminary Outcomes in a Randomized Trial (BASE Trial) *Obesity Surgery* (2021) 31:5047–5048
2. Pajecski D, Dantas ACB, Tustumi F et al. Sleeve Gastrectomy Versus Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass in the Elderly: 1-Year Preliminary Outcomes in a Randomized Trial (BASE Trial) - *Obesity Surgery* (2021) 31:2359–2363.
3. Pajecski D, Dantas ACB, Kanaji AL, et al. Bariatric surgery in the elderly: a randomized prospective study comparing safety of sleeve gastrectomy and Roux-en-Y gastric bypass -BASE Trial. *Surg Obes Relat Dis.* 2020;16(10):1436–40.

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