In Response to Huhn et al RE: Hypothalamic Pituitary Adrenocortical Axis Suppression Following a Single Epidural Injection of Methylprednisolone Acetate: Review, Patient Safety and Clinical Care

We appreciate the authors' interest and their valuable input (1) in our published article (2). We agree that written discharge instructions need to be provided to patients including type and quantity of the steroid, date, and site of injection for improved post procedure safety and clinical care. This information is especially important to provide steroid coverage during major stressful events 4 weeks following a single dose of epidural steroid injection.

We concur with the authors that recent evidence has suggested a shift of first-line epidural steroids to dexamethasone. A future study to assess the degree of adrenal suppression with epidural dexamethasone injections is in pipeline as encouraged by authors. Additionally, a comparative analysis of the extent of HPA axis suppression with epidural methylprednisolone and dexamethasone in a future randomized controlled trial will also be planned.

Babita Ghai, MD, DNB Professor Department of Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research Sector 12, Chandigarh, India-160012 E-mail: ghaibabita1@gmail.com

Dipika Bansal, MD, DM
Assistant Professor
Department of Pharmacy practice / Clinical Research
National Institute of Pharmaceutical
Education and Research
SAS Nagar
Mohali, India, 160062

Aleem Jameel Abdul, MD
Ex-Senior Resident
Department of Anesthesia
Postgraduate Institute of
Medical Education and Research
Chandigarh, India, 160012

REFERENCES

- Huynh P, Yee S, Hsu D. RE: Hypothalamic Pituitary adrenocortical axis suppression following a single epidural injection of methylprednisolone acetate: Review, patient safety and
- clinical care. *Pain Physician* 2018; 21: E189-E190.
- . Abdul A, Ghai B, Bansal D, Sachdeva N, Bhansali A, Dhatt SS. Hypothalamic pi-

tuitary adrenocortical axis suppression following a single epidural injection of methylprednisolone acetate. *Pain Physician* 2017; 20: E991-E1001.