

Peer Review

Review of: "A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Crossover Pilot Study of the Effect of Metformin on Airway Glucose in COPD: The Metformin and Airway Glucose in COPD (MAGIC) Trial"

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This is an engaging, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover pilot study that was well-designed and conducted. However, as the authors conceded, only 14 patients were enrolled, and most of them did not complete the trial. These drawbacks reduce the study's power and reliability and make it difficult to draw definitive conclusions.

To overcome these difficulties, I suggest the authors consider the following measures:

1. Enrolling subjects from other centers.
2. Reducing the time of infection or antibiotic/glucocorticoid exposure before enrollment to four weeks. Another possibility is to include patients who actually have glucocorticoid treatment and create a subgroup with these patients.
3. Extending the duration of the study to 6 months seems to be necessary.

I think that this pilot trial deserves a larger study.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.