

Table S1: Reasons for early departure from the clinical trial

| Reason | Control | Experimental |
|---------------------------|---------|--------------|
| Adverse Event | 3 | 5 |
| Discharge (to ward) | 42 | 39 |
| Operational Issue | 0 | 1 |
| Switch to Palliative Care | 8 | 7 |
| Total | 53 | 52 |

Table S2: Differences in laboratory values across time (experimental minus control)

Values were measured across the first 7 ICU days. Treatment difference in percentage and statistical significance were analyzed for each day ($p \leq 0.05$ are depicted in bold). Overall a decrease in serum alkaline phosphatase, carbon dioxide, and bicarbonate were observed across time in the experimental compared to the control group.

| Day | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|-------------------------|------|-------------|-------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Alk Phos D. % | -8 | -8.2 | -15.8 | -21.5 | -27.2 | -20.9 | -28.7 |
| Alk Phos p-value | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.07 | 0.02 | 0.005 | 0.04 | 0.02 |
| CO ₂ D. % | -3.8 | -7.5 | -7.1 | -10.1 | -8.9 | -10.5 | -14.8 |
| CO ₂ p-value | 0.3 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.004 |
| Bicarb D. mmol/l | 1.7 | -0.4 | -1.4 | -3.1 | -4.4 | -3.1 | -5.3 |
| Bicarb p-value | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.3 | 0.06 | 0.01 | 0.08 | 0.01 |

Figure S1: Patient enrollment by ICU day.

The numbers (n) of patients in the study is shown by day for the control (solid line) and experimental (dotted lines) groups. Analysis was based on 53 and 52 patients in control and experimental groups, respectively. On day 0, one and three patients in control and experimental groups, respectively, dropped out of the trial.

