
doi:10.1002/ejhf.3525

Online publish-ahead-of-print 26 November 2024

Reply to 'Malnutrition and severe heart failure in real-world study settings'

We read with interest the letter by Dr. Meng-Che Wu *et al.* on our article.¹ As also reported in the study limitations,¹ our real-world study is limited by its retrospective nature, thus potentially suffering from unmeasured or unassessed bias. In particular, we acknowledge that socioeconomic status may have a major role in the development of malnutrition. Similarly, the assessment of alternative definitions of malnutrition beyond the Geriatric Nutritional Risk Index is important,² including a detailed evaluation of body type and body composition status.³ Unfortunately, details on socioeconomic status and body type and composition were not available in our real-world, observational, retrospective HELP-HF registry.^{1,4} We agree that studies assessing malnutrition in heart failure should also evaluate these parameters. Similarly, future randomized studies testing the potential benefits of nutritional interventions in heart failure are hugely awaited and needed.⁵

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[Correction added on 15 January 2025, after first online publication: The article category has been changed from 'Letter to the Editor' to 'Scientific Correspondence' in this version.]