

## Corrigendum

# Immunoprotective effects of oral intake of heat-killed *Lactobacillus pentosus* strain b240 in elderly adults: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial – CORRIGENDUM

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The authors regret to announce that there were some errors in Table 3 of this paper, namely that the number of subjects and the statistical analytical method for QOLs were incorrect. The corrected Table 3 and texts are below. We apologize for any inconvenience caused.

Original text and correction

### 1. Abstract (P 1856, L11-12)

General health perception, as determined by the SF-36®, dose-dependently increased in the b240 groups (***P* for trend = 0·016**).

(Correction)

General health perception, as determined by the SF-36®, dose-dependently increased in the b240 groups (***P* < 0·025**)

### 2. Experimental methods (Statistical analysis) (P 1859, L13-19 of the right column)

**Dunnett's** multiple comparison test was performed for the inter-group comparison of QOL score. To examine whether the effect of b240 on QOL score was independent of common cold experience, we used generalized linear models in which we entered changes in score ( $\Delta_{\text{post}} - \text{pre}$ ) as the target variable, and group (placebo to high-dose) and common cold experience (yes or no) as explanatory variables.

(Correction)

**Shirley-Williams'** multiple comparison test was performed for the inter-group comparison of QOL score. To examine whether the effect of b240 on QOL score was independent of common cold experience, we used generalized linear models in which we entered changes in score  $\Delta$  (post – pre) as the target variable, and group (placebo to high-dose) and common cold experience (yes or no) as explanatory variables.

### 3. Results (Change in quality of life) (P 1862, L2-6 of the left column)

Table 3 shows a comparison of pre- and post-intervention QOL scores. From pre- to post-intervention, the score for the general health perception subscale in the b240 groups significantly improved as compared with that in the placebo group (***P* for trend = 0·041**).

(Correction)

Table 3 shows a comparison of pre- and post-intervention QOL scores. From pre- to post-intervention, the score for the general health perception subscale in the b240 groups significantly improved as compared with that in the placebo group (***P* < 0·025**).

**4. Table 3. (P 1862)**
**Table 3.** Changes in quality of life as assessed by the SF-36 (per-protocol set) (Mean values and standard deviations)

Subscales of SF-36	Groups	n	NBS score						P†
			Pre-intervention		Post-intervention		Δ (post – pre)*		
			Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Physical functioning	Placebo	93	51.4	7.3	50.3	9.6	-1.1	7.1	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	52.1	5.9	50.9	7.8	-1.2	7.1	<b>0.99</b>
	High-dose b240	<b>93</b>	51.2	10.4	49.7	9.3	-1.5	8.1	<b>0.89</b>
Role physical	Placebo	93	52.0	7.3	49.5	11.0	-2.4	10.8	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	52.1	6.3	50.4	8.8	-1.6	7.6	<b>0.78</b>
	High-dose b240	93	51.6	8.7	50.4	9.4	-1.2	9.1	<b>0.56</b>
Body pain	Placebo	93	51.0	8.3	51.0	9.9	0.0	9.6	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	53.7	8.7	52.2	11.4	-1.5	9.1	<b>0.48</b>
	High-dose b240	<b>93</b>	52.0	8.9	51.9	9.9	-0.1	8.8	<b>1.00</b>
General health perception	Placebo	93	54.9	7.8	53.4	8.6	-1.4	7.4	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	54.3	7.2	54.9	9.6	0.7	8.2	<b>0.11</b>
	High-dose b240	<b>93</b>	55.5	7.8	56.6	8.2	1.1	6.5	<b>0.04</b>
Vitality	Placebo	93	57.1	7.4	55.1	9.6	-2.0	8.4	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	57.8	7.9	55.4	8.7	-2.4	7.2	<b>0.92</b>
	High-dose b240	93	57.9	7.1	55.9	9.5	-2.0	6.7	<b>1.00</b>
Social functioning	Placebo	93	52.4	7.0	52.1	8.0	-0.3	10.2	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	53.6	6.9	53.1	7.0	-0.6	8.2	<b>0.98</b>
	High-dose b240	93	52.5	6.8	51.1	8.6	-1.4	9.7	<b>0.67</b>
Role emotional	Placebo	93	52.7	6.9	51.3	9.7	-1.5	10.0	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	53.6	5.2	51.4	8.4	-2.1	6.8	<b>0.82</b>
	High-dose b240	93	52.5	7.9	51.2	9.8	-1.3	7.9	<b>0.98</b>
Mental health	Placebo	93	54.9	7.1	55.1	7.3	0.2	7.6	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	56.0	8.4	55.0	8.7	-1.0	7.2	<b>0.40</b>
	High-dose b240	93	55.8	7.1	55.7	7.2	-0.1	6.3	<b>0.93</b>

 NBS, norm-based scoring for Japanese; b240, *Lactobacillus pentosus* strain b240.

\* Change in score was derived by subtracting pre-value from the post-value.

 † **Dunnnett's multiple comparison test.**

(Correction)

**Table 3.** Changes in quality of life as assessed by the SF-36 (per-protocol set) (Mean values and standard deviations)

Subscales of SF-36	Groups	n	NBS score						P†
			Pre-intervention		Post-intervention		Δ (post – pre)*		
			Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Physical functioning	Placebo	93	51.4	7.3	50.3	9.6	-1.1	7.1	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	52.1	5.9	50.9	7.8	-1.2	7.1	<b>NS</b>
	High-dose b240	<b>92</b>	51.2	10.4	49.7	9.3	-1.5	8.1	<b>NS</b>
Role physical	Placebo	93	52.0	7.3	49.5	11.0	-2.4	10.8	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	52.1	6.3	50.4	8.8	-1.6	7.6	<b>NS</b>
	High-dose b240	93	51.6	8.7	50.4	9.4	-1.2	9.1	<b>NS</b>
Body pain	Placebo	93	51.0	8.3	51.0	9.9	0.0	9.6	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	53.7	8.7	52.2	11.4	-1.5	9.1	<b>NS</b>
	High-dose b240	<b>92</b>	52.0	8.9	51.9	9.9	-0.1	8.8	<b>NS</b>
General health perception	Placebo	93	54.9	7.8	53.4	8.6	-1.4	7.4	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	54.3	7.2	54.9	9.6	0.7	8.2	<b>&lt;0.025</b>
	High-dose b240	<b>92</b>	55.5	7.8	56.6	8.2	1.1	6.5	<b>&lt;0.025</b>
Vitality	Placebo	93	57.1	7.4	55.1	9.6	-2.0	8.4	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	57.8	7.9	55.4	8.7	-2.4	7.2	<b>NS</b>
	High-dose b240	93	57.9	7.1	55.9	9.5	-2.0	6.7	<b>NS</b>
Social functioning	Placebo	93	52.4	7.0	52.1	8.0	-0.3	10.2	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	53.6	6.9	53.1	7.0	-0.6	8.2	<b>NS</b>
	High-dose b240	93	52.5	6.8	51.1	8.6	-1.4	9.7	<b>NS</b>
Role emotional	Placebo	93	52.7	6.9	51.3	9.7	-1.5	10.0	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	53.6	5.2	51.4	8.4	-2.1	6.8	<b>NS</b>
	High-dose b240	93	52.5	7.9	51.2	9.8	-1.3	7.9	<b>NS</b>
Mental health	Placebo	93	54.9	7.1	55.1	7.3	0.2	7.6	Reference
	Low-dose b240	92	56.0	8.4	55.0	8.7	-1.0	7.2	<b>NS</b>
	High-dose b240	93	55.8	7.1	55.7	7.2	-0.1	6.3	<b>NS</b>

 NBS, norm-based scoring for Japanese; b240, *Lactobacillus pentosus* strain b240.

\* Change in score was derived by subtracting pre-value from the post-value.

 † **Shirley-Williams' multiple comparison test (one – side, 2.5 %). NS not significant.**

**Reference**

Shinkai S, Toba M, Saito T, *et al.* (2013) Immunoprotective effects of oral intake of heat-killed *Lactobacillus pentosus* strain b240 in elderly adults: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Br J Nutr* **109**, 1856–1865. doi:10.1017/S0007114512003753.