Drs Dupont and Kaza are inventors on a US Patent application held by Boston Children's Hospital that covers the stent technology. Dr Mondal reported no conflicts of interest.

The *Journal* policy requires editors and reviewers to disclose conflicts of interest and to decline handling or reviewing manuscripts for which they may have a conflict of interest. The editors and reviewers of this article have no conflicts of interest.

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS ON PRECLINICAL

EVALUATION OF A PEDIATRIC AIRWAY STENT FOR TRACHEOBRONCHOMALACIA To the Editor:

We were pleased to read the commentaries by Bryant¹ and Overbey and colleagues² on our published preclinical evaluation of a pediatric airway stent.³ We are encouraged by their opinions and concur with their comments toward translating our technology for the treatment of malacic airways in pediatric patients.

With respect to the commentary by Bryant,¹ we would like to clarify that the commercialization of the stent described in our article is still in process, and our device is not the same as the Niti-S stent (Taewong Medical, Seoul, Korea) that he mentioned in his commentary. Whereas the

Niti-S stents use a woven mesh design, we adopted a helical geometry that enables the stent to be removed atraumatically with an unscrewing motion. This is not possible with a mesh design.

We thank the reviewers for their supportive commentaries and hope that in the future we will be in a position to confirm that this stent technology is available for clinical use.

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