To the Editor,

We read with great interest the article of Aksoy et al.[1] in a recent issue of the journal. The authors performed a prospective randomized study on 96 patients undergoing strabismus surgery and concluded that the preoperative administration of paracetamol reduces PONV incidence in children undergoing strabismus surgery. The authors should be commended for performing a study in an important topic (e.g. acute pain and PONV) in pediatric patients undergoing surgery.[2, 3] The current emphasis on the need to use non opioid strategies to improve postoperative pain, nausea and vomiting makes the topic very relevant in perioperative medicine.[4, 5]

Although the study of Aksoy et al. was well designed and conducted, there are some concerns regarding the study that need to be clarified. First, the authors did not use any agent for PONV prophylaxis. The use of dexamethasone and ondansetron is common clinical practice after it has been recommended by practice guidelines.[6] Secondly, the author have evaluated 15 outcomes on a three group design, but they did not correct their analysis to avoid type I errors. Lastly, the authors defined retching as nausea, but retching is frequently used as an aggregate of vomiting outcome in the literature.

We would welcome some comments to address the aforementioned issues as they were not discussed by the authors. This would help to further validate the findings of this important study.

References