Reviewer's report

Title: A do-not-attempt-resuscitation order does not diminish pediatric ICU support but prolongs inevitable death?

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Reviewer: Jos M. Latour

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Review MS: 1985822040924806
A do-not-attempt-resuscitation order does not diminish pediatric ICU support but prolongs inevitable death?

General comments:
This is a single center retrospective study describing patterns of PICU mortality. The study is relatively small despite the 10 years. The manuscript describes the epidemiological course of deaths in a single PICU. One of the attachments is a conflict of interest disclosure by Critical Care. Why is this attached and why from Critical Care while the authors have submitted the paper to BMC Anesth. The limitations addresses some issues that might be worthwhile to explore more in-depth. The term caregiver needs to be defined. The literature is sometimes unclear who the caregivers are (healthcare professionals or parents). It is advice to have this clarified for the readers.

Specific comments:
Table 1. I am a bit puzzled with the p values when in the trauma group zero patients were involved at several variables. Please explain this in the text.
Table 5 could be documented in word file lay-out instead of a copy of the analysis.

References: Some references could be updated. For example the reference nr 14, is old and new evidence is available by the same author: Devictor et al. Forgoing Life Support: How the decision is made in European pediatric intensive care units. Intensive Care Med 2011:37:1881-1887

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'