Reviewer's report

Title: Goal-directed fluid therapy- A survey of anaesthetists in the UK, USA, Australia and New Zealand

Version: 2 Date: 6 October 2012

Reviewer: BALA SUBRAMANIAM

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions:
1) The authors primary aim has not been well defined. They state that they wanted to see the uptake of GDFT. Does it mean they simply wanted to know what is the prevalence of GDFT use amongst anesthetists?

2) The authors go on to state that they wanted to understand the barriers for using GDFT.

3) For example, the question that was asked .....if never used GDFT why? This question does not address the primary issue...are you aware of it? Would you like to more about this technique? This question assumes that all the people that are interviewed are aware of this technique well.

4) How was the survey questionnaire developed ? Was there an involvement of a focus group? How was the validity for each question assessed? For example in a survey like this, you have to have alternative questions that kind of tests the same content but framed in a different way?

5) The methodology that was used to develop and validate the survey questionnaire needs to be mentioned in the methods?

6) The take away point from this questionnaire is GDFT is primarily a UK technique and this is well known. It would be interesting if this questionnaire was developed to find out exactly what the barriers would be? Unfortunately just one question was dedicated to this and that I think is the major weakness of this study.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

None