Reviewer’s report

Title: Emulsified isoflurane preconditioning protects kidneys against ischemia/reperfusion injury in rats: a prospective randomized study

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Reviewer: Bin Yang

Reviewer’s report:

The topic is interesting and there has been no report for isoflurane on renal precondition, although some studies on other organ systems such as heart and brain were published. The manuscript is well written and easy to follow. However the following issues should be addressed properly before its acceptance for publication.

Majors:
1. How to explain that the serum level of IL-10 was increased by I/R if IL-10 is an antiinflammatory cytokine?
2. As the authors mentioned this the time of reperfusion is only 3 h, so many changes will be not detected and the longer time point will be necessary to fully evaluate the effect of Elso precondition on the renal I/R injury.
3. Inflammatory cell infiltration and apoptosis could be assessed, the data of this study will be more valuable.
4. The authors did mentioned that serum concentration of CYC could reflect glomerular filtration rate very accurately, even in cases where there was only a minor reduction in glomerular filtration rate”. However, this point needs to be compared with Scr and discussed properly.

Minors:
1. The abstract might be better organized to avoid the repetition of the same terminologies.
2. Table 2: The format of cystain C at “Elso 4ml/kg” need to be adjusted.
3. Table 2, 3 & 4: “Elso 4ml/kg” may also be changed to “Elso 4 ml/kg” on the top row, the same for other 2 dosages.
4. Figure 1: the labeling of letters on the pictures should be more visible such as color contrast.
5. References: The format of references needs to be adjusted such as 14 and 23.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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