Reviewer's report

Title: A Randomized, Placebo Controlled, Trial of Preoperative Sustained Release Betamethasone Plus Non-Controlled Intraoperative Ketorolac or Fentanyl on Pain After Diagnostic Laparoscopy or Laparoscopic Tubal Ligation

Authors:

Warren P. Bagely (WBagley@mc.utmck.edu)
A. AUDIE. Smith (AASmith@mc.utmck.edu)
Jessie D. Hebert (JHebert@mc.utmck.edu)
Carolyn C. Snider (CSnider@mc.utmck.edu)
Marsha D. Piller (MPiller@mc.utmck.edu)
Gary A. Sega (Garysega@comcast.net)
Paula C. Carney (PCarney@utk.edu)
Prof Roger C. Carroll (RCCarrol@mc.utmck.edu)

Version: 3 Date: 22 Jul 2003

Reviewer: John M Hughes

Level of interest: not specified

Advice on publication: Other (see below)

I've reviewed the amended manuscript and I have no objections to publication without further compulsory revisions.

I have three small discretionary revisions.

1. Could the title to Table 2 be clarified? The present title could be interpreted as the average pain at the 2 hour time point rather than the average of the 15, 30, 60 and 120 minute time points.

2. Figures 1-3. The legends say that the mean +/- S.E.M. are plotted. Is the mean shown? Is it the top of the shaded/solid bar or is that the mean - SEM. If not it would be preferable to have the mean indicated with bars giving +/- SEM. A boxplot would solve this problem if the authors have access to a suitable graphics package.

3. Both 'data were' and 'data was' have been used. Could 'data were' be used throughout?

Competing interests:

None declared.