Reviewer's report

Title: Circumstances surrounding dying in the paediatric intensive care unit

Version: 1 Date: 17 May 2006

Reviewer: Murray Pollack

Reviewer's report:

General
This retrospective study details the experience of a relatively small PICU in The Netherlands. While the study does not add anything new to the methodology or conceptual framework concerning death and dying in the pediatric ICU, it does provide breadth to a relatively limited body of information.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct
1) The "mode of death groups" are defined to be mutually exclusive. Please better define how the TOF group is mutually exclusive of failed CPR.
2) Please note in the manuscript if "medical suitable" for organ donation requires brain death.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

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