Author's response to reviews

Title: Exhaled Breath Profiling For Diagnosing Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear editor,

We would like to submit our manuscript, titled “Exhaled Breath Profiling for Diagnosing ARDS in Intubated and Ventilated Intensive Care Unit–Patients” for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

Exhaled breath analysis using electronic nose technology for diagnosis of pulmonary injury in ventilated patients on the intensive care unit is highly attractive as it is rapid and non-invasive. This is in stark contrast with the contemporary diagnostic procedures that involve radiation exposure, frequent blood analysis and even lung lavage. Hereby we report on a prospective study on the diagnostic accuracy of exhaled breath profiling with electronic nose for acute respiratory distress syndrome.

We believe this paper is highly suitable for your journal as we report on a novel diagnostic method that has great potential for improving the care for critically ill patients. Also, we tried to combine the state of the art in sample collection and data processing with a well-designed clinical study that is reported strictly following STARD guidelines for diagnostic research.

The three authors fulfilled all criteria for authorship. We declare no conflicts of interest and confirm adherence with the ethical guidelines.

We hope that the editorial board will find this manuscript suitable for review.

Sincerely,

Lieuwe DJ Bos
Marcus J Schultz
Peter J Sterk