Reviewer's report

Title: Rationale and study design of PROVAR - A randomized controlled trial on the effects of variable versus conventional lung protective mechanical ventilation during open abdominal surgery

Version: 2  Date: 5 April 2014

Reviewer: Marcos Vidal Melo

Reviewer's report:

The authors answered all my questions appropriately, and introduced corresponding modifications in the text. No pending issues.

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:

No competing interest.