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: 1 April 2014

Reviewer: Bela Suki

Reviewer’s report:

The authors adequately responded to my critique and revised the manuscript. I do not have any more comments.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have a patent on a particular form of variable ventilation issues in the US.