**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Endotracheal tube cuff pressure assessment maneuver induces drop of expired tidal volume in the postoperative of coronary artery bypass grafting

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 13 March 2012

**Reviewer:** Renata Trimer

**Reviewer's report:**

The question posed is new and well defined. Is unpublished study about the cuff pressure measure and alterations on expired tidal volume in CABG.

The methods are appropriate and well described, and the work is possible to replicate. Is routine cuff pressure monitoring protocol in many ICUs and the knowledge about the best protocol for CABG patients is of the great clinical importance.

The data are controlled and the number of patients is very consistent (n:488) and the results can be extrapolated.

The manuscript was written in a clear and objective data and the writing is acceptable.

The title and abstract accurately convey what has been found.

As suggestions, I recommend include in yours results more information about the level values of CP (table 2). The main function of the ETT cuff is to seal the airway, preventing aspiration of pharyngeal contents into the trachea and leaks around the cuff, and lower values are undesirable than and overinflation can promote tracheal wall ischemia, stenosis and tracheo- esophageal fistulae. You can demonstrate the behavior of the CP through cutoff value of recommend values (e.g. CP<20cmH2O; CP 20-30 cmH2O and CP>30cmH2O) and explorer in your discussion.

I recommend include in your study a brief paragraph about the limitations and your suggestions about the clinical applications this study.

**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.