Reviewer's report

Title: A Systematic Review of Pediatric versus Adult Patients in Current Pectus Excavatum Treatments

Version: 1 Date: 20 September 2013

Reviewer: QI ZENG

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Discretionary Revisions
1. Ravitch procedure has a long history, and this technology is much mature, Nuss surgery is relatively a new technic, just about twenty years' experience. Some of the indicators for compare, such as LOS, pending a long time follow-up and comparison of large sample.

In our hospital, the average time to discharge was 4-5 days, less than 7.3 days.
2. Some of the reference articles about Nuss surgery were not a large sample research. There will be some differences between the different research centers, such as surgical experiences, the data of length of stay, etc.

3. Nuss procedure in the treatment of pectus excavatum has been a remarkable innovation. The statistical comparison in this article found that the difference between Nuss and Ravitch surgery was not significant, but from the perspective of the patient's family or personal perspective on the aesthetic requirements, Nuss procedure has several advantages like smaller wound, more covert, less injury, etc., it should be better than Ravitch surgery.

4. With the increase in the number of cases, and experience, Nuss procedure can be applied in complex, intractable, asymmetric cases, and also can achieve good postoperative results and long-term results.

In Beijing Children's Hospital, we had completed 2431 cases of Nuss surgery, with a good postoperative results. A paper about ten years of experience of Nuss surgery in our hospital is writing in process.

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests.