Reviewer's report

Title: Self-reported physical activity and lung function two months after cardiac surgery - a prospective cohort study

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Reviewer: Luc Noyez

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The study concerns a group of 283 patients undergoing elective cardiac surgery, 2007-2011, with pre- and postoperative information about their physical activity and lung function. I think all patients, operated between 2007-2011, had a preoperative lung function and only patients with postoperative physical activity information had a postoperative lung function.

1. Is this group of 283 patients representative for the whole population. So we need information about demographics, operative risk (logistic EuroSCORE), lung function of these 283 versus the whole population of patients that could be included in this study. Differences have to be discussed in the paper.

2. The study group of 283 patients concerns only patients with pre and postoperative complete information. Probably there were more patients with preoperative complete physical activity information. We have to be informed about the patients who didn’t complete the postoperative questions. Mortality, survival, demographics, operative risk (logistic EuroSCORE), lung function of the patients with complete preoperative information but no complete postoperative information versus the data of the 283 patients. Differences have to be discussed in the paper.

3. We have to be informed about the (peri)operative data. Hospital mortality, mortality 2 months postoperative (end of the study period), major morbidity of the total group that could be included in the study, the study group of 283 patients and the patients with complete preoperative information, but incomplete postoperative information. Also here differences have to be discussed in the paper.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests