Reviewer’s report

Title: Traumatic Asphyxia Due to Blunt Chest Trauma: Case Report and Literature Review

Version: 1 Date: 21 March 2012

Reviewer: ARGYRIS TZOUVELEKIS

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Presentations, diagnoses and/or management of new and emerging diseases

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: No

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

This is an interesting case report of an underrecognised entity called traumatic asphyxia which despite its relatively common occurrence due to car accidents its reporting incidence remains significantly low. The case is well written and reported in a persuasive way and merits publication due to the unacceptably low reporting incidence of the condition. The case comprises of a simple and effective therapeutic algorithm that would be ideal to be illustrated in a figurative form.

One minor comment: Was the patient BALed? If so did authors report any alveolar hemorrhage due to lung contusion or just increased number of polymorphonuclear cells?
Quality of written English: Acceptable