Reviewer's report

Title: Dexmedetomidine on tracheal extubation in deeply anesthetized adult patients after otologic surgery: a comparison with remifentanil

Version: 5 Date: 23 March 2015

Reviewer: Max Kelz

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1. Abstract Results section please change text to: “The rate of smooth tracheal extubation as defined 1 minute post-extubation was ...”

2. Introduction page 3, line 10 should read airway obstruction and “aspiration” (not inspiration)

3. Introduction, page 3 line 15 remove the reference to the technique being “safe” and change the sentence to read, “We showed that the technique provided smooth extubation.” Claims about safety and efficacy must be supported in light of expected incidence of complications. Group sizes of 50 subjects yield insufficient power to support or refute safety statements.

4. Page 7, line 7-8, Thank you for adding the percentages of patients with a regular respiratory pattern. In order to have obtained a P value, you had to have an error estimate for these percentages. Please also list a measure of this error or alternatively list the confidence intervals bounding these percentages of patients with a regular respiratory pattern during cuff deflation in all groups.