Reviewer's report

Title: Dexmedetomidine Decreases the Emergence Agitation in Infant Patients Undergoing Cleft Palate Repair Surgery after General Anesthesia

Version: 2 Date: 18 July 2015

Reviewer: Ke Peng

Reviewer's report:

The authors performed a randomized controlled study to compare the effects of dexmedetomidine on EA in infants undergoing cleft palate repair surgery.

1. Define all abbreviations and acronyms the first time they are used in the abstract and in the text.

2. I don’t think the power analysis is adequate. If a sample size of 20 cases is suggested, at least 22 cases are required for possible drop-outs. Also, the calculations based on extubation time and agitation scores should be clearly reported respectively.

3. Why there are web links in the first paragraph in the discussion section?

4. The limitations of the current study need to be mentioned.

5. Please include the unit of age in Table 2.

6. Postoperative side effects presented in Table 4 can be included as recovery parameters into Table 3.

7. Define the time point of “operation” in Figure 2 and 3, and I can not find SD in Figure 2 to 4.

8. I think this article needs some language corrections before it could get published.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.