Author’s response to reviews

Title: Effects of lubrication on air-sealing performance of a pediatric cuffed tracheal tube

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Guangde Tu

BMC Anesthesiology

Re: BANE-D-16-00319R1,

Thank you for your letter of June 23, 2017 regarding our manuscript entitled “Effects of lubrication on air-sealing performance of a pediatric cuffed tracheal tube” and valuable comments from the reviewers. According to the comment, we have conducted the additional experiments using 5 more tracheal tubes with ID 5.0 mm and we found that the results with the additional samples were very similar to those of the original experiments. We have added these results and revised the manuscript. I attach here both our revised manuscript and our point-by-point response to the reviewers’ comments. We believe that the revised manuscript addresses the comment from reviewer 3 and is suitable for publication in BMC Anesthesiology.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of our revised manuscript.
Dr. Neerja Bhardwaj (Reviewer 1)

Comment: Thanks for clarifying the raised concerns.

Response: Thank you for your reading our revised manuscript and comment on it.

Dr. Yu Chang Yeh (Reviewer 3)

Comment: The authors have revised the manuscript and added experiments. However, the results of tube size 5.0 mm in Table 2 and 3 do not support the conclusion that lubrication with K-Y jelly but not water significantly lowered the CP needed to prevent air leakage. The authors may add 5 more tracheal tubes for their experiments to minimize the underpowered issue.

Response: Thank you for your constructive comment. We have performed the additional experiments using 5 more tracheal tubes with ID 5.0 mm, according to the comment. We found that the results of the additional experiment were very similar to those of the original experiment. Therefore, the differences in the incidence of air leakage among three groups of ID 5.0 mm tubes have become highly significant after adding 5 more samples. We also found that LCP of the KY group of ID 5.0 mm tubes have become significantly lower than two other groups in the combined results. Accordingly we have revised the sentences presenting the methods of our experiments <p5, line 6-7>, the results of the experiment B < p6, line 9-11 > and table 3 < p7 , line 8 >. The parts of table 1, 2, and 3 have been revised. We have also modified the results section in Abstract < p2, line16-19 > and the 1st paragraph of the section of discussion summarizing the whole results <p9, the 2nd line >.