Reviewer’s report

Title: Effects of sevoflurane and propofol on the development of pneumonia after esophagectomy: a retrospective cohort study

Version: 0 Date: 03 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Ya-Jung Cheng

Reviewer's report:

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Please overwrite this text when adding your comments to the authors.

The manuscript has been well written but there are some major issues about this investigation listed as below:

1. A lack of clear definition of PP: what kinds of blood tests? the white counts as well as the diagnosis on image? What are the following treatments and the outcomes? Because the PP after esophagectomy is the main result, unclear definition is not acceptable. Pulmonary complications remain to be the major concerned after esophagectomy, however, other complications such as empyema, pleural effusion also exist. The definition of PP should be clearly demonstrated.

2. As the authors hypothesized that the anesthetics may alter the postoperative inflammation, there are no data available for readers to suggest more inflammatory responses.

3. It would be better if Line 156-160 was shown in introduction

4. Please show the extubation time after operation to rule out the postoperative ventilatory injuries.

5. As BMI of most patients remain within normal range, the results should be carefully interpreted.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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