Reviewer’s report

Title: Usefulness of a visual aid in achieving optimal positioning for spinal anesthesia: a randomized trial

Version: 0 Date: 03 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Scott Zimmer

Reviewer's report:

I agree the patient experience, number of attempts, and the need to get additional help are all values that matter. I agree that the shorter time to perform the procedure and less needle punctures is valuable to the patient, but stating that it offers value for decreasing time in the OR, or possible saves money or OR time by sparing a minute or two seems like a stretch. I like how simple the intervention is, and it clearly can be implemented in a very low tech fashion. Anecdotally as anesthesiologist we have all struggled to explain good positioning during neuraxial anesthesia to maximize interspaces and thus a simple visual aid would be easy to implement immediately without disrupting workflow or costing any money.

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

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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

Yes

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable
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