Reviewer's report

Title: The Clarus Video System (Trachway) and Direct Laryngoscope for Endotracheal Intubation with Cricoid Pressure in Simulated Rapid Sequence Induction Intubation: A Prospective Randomized Controlled Trial

Version: 0 Date: 29 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Johann Knotzer

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BANE-D-18-00497

Dr Lin and co-workers investigated first intubation success rate and intubation time in three groups applying cricoid pressure: CVS-video stylet group, CVS-lightwand group, and conventional direct laryngoscopy.

The authors found that the first attempt success rate within 30 seconds was similar in the CVS-video stylet group and in the conventional direct laryngoscopy group; and slower in the CVS-lightwand group. After 60 seconds no difference in intubation time was detected.

This is an interesting study showing the efficacy of CVS intubation in simulated rapid sequence induction intubation compared with conventional direct laryngoscopy.

I have one major comment regarding the design of the study. The primary outcome is defined as the effect of applied cricoid pressure between the three groups. To answer this question, the authors had to compare intubation success rates and intubation time in patients with applied cricoid pressure and patients without applied cricoid pressure.

With this design, the primary outcome parameter is the comparison of success rate and intubation time between the three groups independent of the applied cricoid pressure.

For that reason, I recommend to rewrite this manuscript in the focus on intubation success rate and intubation time independent of cricoid pressure, which was performed in all patients. Interestingly, the power analysis in your manuscript describes the first intubation rate as primary outcome parameter. I think that this should be your focus.

Results are clear. Discussion is convincing.

I recommend this manuscript for publication after rewriting the manuscript according to the major limitation.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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

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I am able to assess the statistics

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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