Reviewer’s report

Title: Effects of intravenous infusion of lidocaine and dexmedetomidine on inhibiting cough during the tracheal extubation period after thyroid surgery

Version: 0 Date: 21 Jan 2019

Reviewer: luigi vetrugno

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editor,

It is a privilege for me to serve as review for you estimate journal. Thank you!

And, I read with great interest the article by Shenghong Hu et al. with the title: "Effects of intravenous infusion of lidocaine and dexmedetomidine on inhibiting cough during the tracheal extubation period after thyroid surgery".

Overall it is a well written manuscript that seem to follow a severe methodology, and a fast recruitment: Ethics Committee - 2018-06-09, Chinese Clinical Trial Registry - ChiCTR1800017482 - date of registration 28 August 2018 (that is in Chinese - difficult for me to understand), patients’ recruitment in December and the final version of this manuscript in January 2019 and I congratulated with the authors' for that.

However, to be honest I will transfer my major concern to the authors as follow:

- Line 24 to 26....page 2: you said that "The reduction of complication, such as cough, delirium and hemodynamic disorder........... is a major concern for anaesthesiology" for me pain, bleeding and MACE are much important and in this kind of surgery the integrity of vocal cord movement much more.

- Line 41 to 42 page 2: "These complications may negatively impact the quality of recovery" however there is/are no relation with the outcome.

- Line 44 to 48 "Therfore, the inhibition of cough is considered to be more important for thyroid than any other surgical factor" so I respect your point of view but let me to disagree a little bit and to point out my major concern about nerve damage.

- The grade of cough was: no cough, 1 cough, > 1 cough lasting for < 5 sec and grade 3 severe, sustained cough for > 5 seconds. It is difficult for me to correlate this time with outcome.
- statistical analysis: you said that a pilot study was performed to estimate an appropriate sample size without explain to us how you can obtain this number.

- Finally are you protocol complication free? There is there are an other face of the moon.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to growing my knowledge.

Best Regards,

**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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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