Reviewer’s report

Title: A data review of airway management in patients with oral cavity or oropharyngeal cancer: A single-institution experiences

Version: 0 Date: 06 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Johann Knotzer

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BANE-D-19-00007

Dr Zheng and co-workers investigated in a single-centre retrospective case-matched analysis incidence of difficult tracheal intubation in oral cavity or oropharyngeal cancer w/wo radiotherapy. The authors found that head and neck radiotherapy was not associated with difficult intubation. Furthermore the authors describe a good correlation between Mallampati score and difficult tracheal intubation.

The background is clear; aims and questions of the study are interesting. Methods and statistics are appropriate; the results inclusive tables are comprehensible; the discussion reflects the results and shows possible limitations of the study.

I have just one comment regarding the matching strategy:

Subjectively, I believe that there might be a difference in the incidence of difficult tracheal intubation between patients with oral cavity cancer and patients with oropharyngeal cancer. Would it be very difficult or possible to include these two kinds of cancer in the matching strategy? I can even imagine that the anatomic site of cancer has an influence on the broadly used flexible endoscopy in these patients. Probably you have the opportunity to provide the reader with these data.

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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