Author’s response to reviews

Title: Comparison of volume-controlled ventilation mode and pressure-controlled ventilation with volume-guaranteed mode in the prone position during lumbar spine surgery

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Version: 2 Date: 10 Jun 2019

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Re: Comparison of volume-controlled ventilation mode and pressure-controlled ventilation with volume-guaranteed mode in the prone position during lumbar spine surgery

Dear editor,

Thank you for your response. Point-by-point answers are listed below and those with yellow highlight were inserted in the revised manuscript.

Thomas Hachenberg, M.D., Ph.D. (Reviewer 2): The authors have by and large addressed the points raised by the reviewer. I would like to have one comment on the potential advantages of PCV-VG. The differences between VC and PCV-VG for Cdyn and Ppeak were rather small and will have no major effect on the postoperative course. PCV-VG may have more importance for patients with advanced lung disease or morbid obesity.

-> We thank the reviewer for this valuable comment. We agree that the differences between VCV and PCV-VG for Cdyn and Ppeak were quite small in healthy patients. Further study is needed in patients with lung disease or morbid obesity to compare the effects of VCV and PCV-VG. The point raised by the reviewer has been presented as a limitation of our study.
Anesthesia was induced with remifentanil (0.1-0.2 μg/kg/min), propofol (1.5-2 mg/kg), and rocuronium (0.6mg/kg), and maintained at a fractional inspired oxygen concentration of 0.5 with sevoflurane (2.0-2.5 vol%), remifentanil (0.05-0.3 mg/kg/min)

Anesthesia induction with remifentanil, single injection (μg/kg) or continuous injection? if continuous injection, how long time?

should mg/kg/min be μg/kg/min?

-> Anesthesia was induced with continuous injection of remifentanil until the patient was intubated (about 10 minutes). mg/kg/min was changed to μg/kg/min in line 28, page 5.

The Cdyn values at all time points were lower than the initial values in both groups

if"at later three time points” is more appropriate than"at all time points” ?

-> The sentence was changed.