Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of endotracheal tube lubrication on cuff pressure increase during nitrous oxide exposure: a laboratory and prospective randomized controlled trial

Version: 0 Date: 20 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Kenneth Cummings

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting follow-up study assessing the effect of ETT lubrication on the increase in cuff pressure from nitrous oxide. I commend the authors on a well-done study.

Some comments:

1. In the introduction, the authors state that ETT cuff pressure should be carefully monitored. Do they propose this as a standard of care? If so, practice will need to change across the world. It may be better to suggest, rather than state this.

2. Table 1: P-values are unnecessary since any differences would be, by definition, due to random chance. If anything, presenting absolute standardized differences (e.g. difference in means/pooled SD or the equivalent) would be more appropriate.

3. The authors rightly point out that an 8-minute difference in time to a cuff pressure of 25 mmHg is of limited significance. I'm not sure this supports the statement that there would need to be fewer adjustments of the ETT with the attendant reduction in bucking, etc.

4. Why would K-Y jelly even cause this effect? A brief recap would be helpful in the introduction or discussion.

5. Would other lubricants have similar effect (e.g. Surgilube, lidocaine jelly)?
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

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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

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