Reviewer’s report

Title: The impact of dexmedetomidine added to ropivicaine for transversus abdominis plane block on stress response in laparoscopic surgery: a randomized controlled trial

Version: 2 Date: 29 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses one or several testable research questions? (Brief or other article types: is there a clear objective?)

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

No - there are minor issues

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with sufficient technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

No - there are minor issues

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

No - there are issues with the statistics in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are minor issues
OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? If not, can further revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Probably - with minor revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: The authors have addressed referees comments in a reasonable fashion. There are still a series of questions/queries that should be addressed.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

Information around patient's medical history and regular medications must be provided, regular beta-blocker, ACE-inhibitors and other cardiovascular medications, steroids, diabetes, etc.

Indication for surgery, cancer none-cancer surgery, preoperative cytostatic, radiation or further pretreatment.

Fasting, time without drink and food. Nutritional status, BMI.

Intraoperative course, fluid regime, handling of low blood pressure and or heart rate, amount of ephedrine, norepinephrine, phenylephrine, atropine etc.

Blood loss, transfusion.

Surgery performed

The time points should be further discussed.

Statistics, differences between groups should be better described. Adjustment for repeated tests should be commented.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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

No
Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

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5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

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