Reviewer’s report

Title: Continuous intravenous infusion of remifentanil improves the experience of parturient undergoing repeated cesarean section under epidural anesthesia, a prospective, randomized study

Version: 0 Date: 19 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Mohamed Abdulatif

Reviewer's report:

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An interesting randomized controlled study evaluating the potential role of continuous low-dose remifentanil infusion in improving comfort during repeat cesarean section delivery under epidural anesthesia in Chinese parturients. The results of the study are generally expected and confirmed the fact that remifentanil infusion improves maternal comfort and reduces the maximum visual analogue score during cesarean section.

I have a concern regarding the descriptive and inferential statistics of the results of the COMFORT score. Apparently, the authors considered comfort score as CONTINUOUS data. Unfortunately, this is not appropriate. Therefore, you cannot summarize the results of this score as mean (SD). Furthermore, the use of unpaired parametric t-test to compare the comfort score in the two study groups is statistically inappropriate. This misconception may also affect the integrity of sample size estimation.

There is no indication in the manuscript indicating that the authors have assessed the degree of sedation with the use of remifentanil infusion in the intervention or in the ketamine in the control group. This is an important methodological shortcoming. The question is: Can sedated patients provide reliable information about their intraoperative visual analogue pain scores?

The figures depicting the results of the comfort and VAS scores are unnecessary. The information is already provided in text format in the results section.

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.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Unable to assess

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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