Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluation of peripheral perfusion index and heart rate variability as early predictors for intradialytic hypotension in critically ill patients

Version: 3 Date: 18 Dec 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?
Yes - the approach is appropriate

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

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?
Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?
Yes - the author's interpretation is reasonable

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?
Yes - current version is technically sound

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: * Have the authors responded adequately to each of the questions or concerns you raised in your comments?
The authors have responded adequately to each of the questions or concerns raised during the previous review. In particular, they have used Fisher's exact test to compare proportions with small sample size,
they have provided the number and proportion for cause of ICU admissions and they have clarified the unadjusted association reported.

* Have they also made changes to reflect their responses in the manuscript itself?
The authors have made necessary changes in the manuscript to reflect their response in different sections of the manuscript.

* What is your overall impression of the revised manuscript?
This well-written manuscript titled "Evaluation of peripheral perfusion index and heart rate variability as early predictors for intradialytic hypotension in critically ill patients" describes an interesting analysis which showed that peripheral perfusion index and heart rate variability are early predictors for intradialytic hypotension in critically ill patients and adds to the literature in this less-studied area of research. The Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion sections are fairly well-written.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:
None

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
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?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

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5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

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