Reviewer’s report

Title: Anesthetic management of a patient with a continuous-flow left ventricular assist device for video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery: a case report

Version: 0 Date: 31 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Marco Baciarello

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

Thank you for your interest in BMC Anesthesiology.

The case you described is extremely interesting, especially because there's no way around OLV for VATS, and because of the potential effects on RV function that you've been correctly predicting.

I believe this case report is well worth publishing after a few corrections—namely:

1. Please elaborate more on the massive fluid loading the patient underwent before surgery. Clearly, hypovolemia is a problem in all patients at risk of RV dysfunction, but a 4 kg gain seems a lot. Was it really necessary in your opinion? Are there citations about this in the literature?

2. You state that the preoperative fluid infusion was meant to reduce the risk of thrombus formation, yet the patient was on IV heparin. Please explain this aspect, as well.

3. Please indicate normalized ratios for coagulation times, as the absolute values may vary between different labs and institutions (page 5, line 20-24)

4. The sentence "rocuronium was administered before the operation" sounds a little as though the drug was given before the patient was even in the OR. Please change it to "just before the first incision" or something to that effect.

5. Please indicate what drug was actually used for IV PCA, as we only have doses and settings…

6. Epidural analgesia was actually contraindicated because of the patient's anticoagulation; please cite some alternatives, such as erector spinae block, single shot paravertebral blocks, etc…

7. Finally, I suggest a general revision of the language in the manuscript; there are no significant errors, but some sentences and words could use some more nuance.

Once these minor corrections are applied, I think the manuscript deserves publishing.
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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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