Reviewer’s report

Title: Intraoperative ventilation strategies for obese patients undergoing bariatric surgery: systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 1 Date: 16 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Babatunde O. Ogunnaike

Reviewer's report:

Very good systematic review and meta-analysis. Many errors in the writing flow (suggested corrections in attached manuscript)

General presentation satisfactory

Background, methods, data collection, analysis, and results - satisfactory

Conclusions - in line with current widespread evidence and practice patterns

References - satisfactory

Including "obese" in the title seems redundant unless wide discussion is to be entertained on ventilation in obese patients in general

No evidence of any difference between VCV and PCV modes. High vs. low tidal volume ventilation is an appropriate discussion parameter in this context.

Appropriate to discuss ventilation that could be beneficial to during laparoscopy e.g. Pressure-controlled ventilation with volume guarantee (PCV-VG) could be included in this review.

Laparoscopic vs. open bariatric surgery - what differences, if any, in reviewed manuscripts?

More discussion on variability in ventilatory interventions and why each anesthesiologist chose particular ventilator modes in obese patients.

Overall good manuscript

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.

Unable to assess

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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