Reviewer’s report

Title: Flow-controlled ventilation (FCV) improves regional ventilation in obese patients – a randomized controlled crossover trial

Version: 0 Date: 20 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Alberto Fogagnolo

Reviewer's report:

The author conducted a study focused on flow controlled ventilation in obese patients. The topic is of interest and the conclusions supported by results. I have some comments for authors

1. The role of expiratory flow limitation must be discussed, as an issue of absolute value in this context (please see and discuss Spadaro et al, anesthesia analg). Could the ventilation mode influence this variable? Was the presence of efl investigated?

2. How was static compliance evaluated? I do not know if the ventilator used allow for inspiratory hold, please specify

3. Please delete "The Evone ventilator is currently the only ventilator. To enable FCV".

4. The discussion must be implemented. It is not clear how an increased eelv does not lead to increased crs not less inhomogeneity. Were those values measured simultaneously?

5. Opening closing phenomena should also be reduced with less intratidal recruitment and better recruitment to inflation ratio. Should author provide some data regarding those argument?

6. I understand that BGA analysis was not performed. Nonetheless, at least etco2 and spo2/fio2 ratio should be reported

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.

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

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