Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Circumcision in hemophilia using low quantity of Factor Concentrates: Experience from Dakar, Senegal

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 15 Nov 2016

**Reviewer:** Chatree Chai-Adisaksopha

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors conducted a study investigating the efficacy of low quantity of factor concentrates (as stated in the title) for patients with hemophilia A who underwent circumcision. However, the data regarding to the amount of factors used in this study was not presented. The outcome measures were not well defined. Hemostatic control during surgery was not reported.

Other comments

**Background**

Please put the page numbers in the manuscript.

Page 4, Line 70 "In Senegal, circumcision was………" This sentence is confusing, please rephrase.

Page 4, "Currently, 179 patients are regularly followed at Dakar's….". Please state 179 hemophilia patients. Please write WFH in full and provide the reference.

**Methods**

Page 5, Please provide the reference for the diagnosis of hemophilia A based on FVIII level less than 30%. As per ISTH (PMID: 11307831), mild hemophilia is considered in patients with low FVIII level up to 40%.

Page 5, What are the other inclusion criteria?, e.g. patients were undergoing circumcision, age of participants, severity of hemophilia, inhibitor status. What are the exclusion criteria? When was the enrollment duration? How did investigators enroll the patients (convenience or other sampling methods)?

Page 5, I did not see patients' inform consent statements or ethics consideration for this study.

Page 5, What was the dose and schedule of FEIBA or rFVIIa in the protocol?
Page 6, Please state route of administration for Oxacillin and paracetamol.

Page 7, How do you define healing time and occurrence of bleeding events?

Please provide the data that you collected at the beginning of the study and how did you follow the patients. How did you monitor inhibitor following the surgery? Did you monitor FVIII level perioperatively?

Statistics

Could you elaborate about the analysis using Chi2 ant t-test? What did you compare?

Results

If the data was not normal distributed, please considered using median with range or inter-quartile range.

How did you define severe, moderate and minor (or mild is more commonly used) hemophilia?

I would say "low titer inhibitor" instead of "low responder".

How many of these patients are on-demand treatment and prophylaxis treatment?

Since the primary objective of this study was the efficacy of perioperative management, the primary outcome should be hemostatic control during surgery. Did you have the data according to how well bleeding was controlled during surgery?

This cohort is small. I would suggest not to perform too many subgroup analysis.

I do not understand the term "bleeding event" in this study. Was that supposed to occur after surgery? How did you define "bleeding event"?

Again, how did you define "minor bleeding".

If I understand correctly, the factor concentrate was given 3 times (as per protocol- 1 hour prior surgery, next 24 hour for 2 doses). Is that correct? I would like to know how many patients were given 3 doses as per protocol and how many patients were given extra doses.

Could you please provide the median doses of factor VIII used?

Again, please provide the detail for the treatment in patients with inhibitors. Since there are a few patients with inhibitors, I would suggest not included them in the analysis.
Again, when did bleeding event occur (median time)?

Discussion

"Substitution therapy consisted to raise FVIII levels around 60% for three days" Is that the finding from this study? If not, please provide the reference.

Please compare the amount of factor used in this study with other protocols.

Table

Table 1, please provide median with range or interquartile range

How many patient age >15 but <=20 years old

Please consider using mild hemophilia instead of minor

What are the proportion of on-demand and prophylaxis treatment?

Table 2, If the age is pre-defined subgroup analysis, please state in the methods.

Please check the number. In Table 1, there were 22 patients <=15 years but there were 4 patients with age<=15 years in table 2.

Table 3, Other forms should be changed to "mild to moderate" hemophilia.

Please provide percentages.

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.

No

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

No
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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