Reviewer's report

Title: Daily routine vs on-demand chest radiograph policy in adult ICU patients- Clinicians' perspective

Version: 1 Date: 20 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Thomas Frauenfelder

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This is an interesting survey about the current practice of using chest radiographs for adult ICU's in tertiary hospitals in Saudi Arabia. The results reflect the current status of reality (daily image) and wish (on-demand) as it can be seen in many other countries.

There is no major issue to be addressed. The paper is easy readable. The results from the questionnaires of this study is in line with other studies, which also investigated the effect of changing to on-demand CRX, showing no negative influence on patient care. I believe that the fear on patient safety and missing internal regulations (were not ask for) as well as the culture of failure management might are the main driver for keeping current policy.

There are some minor issues to be mentioned:

Abstract:

In the results it is stated that 70.9% are academic and 24% non-academic. what about the other 5% of persons? This is also found for other numbers. The term "clinicians" is somehow misleading. Does it mean the physicians or the clinical staff member?

Background: okay.

Method: Please provide the questionnaire as "additional material". Why were the nurses also included in the survey? Are they allowed to order images, how are they involved in the therapeutic process? Regarding the results, following information are needed: Are multiple answers possible, what about incomplete questionnaires? sometime "missing" is given, but not for all categories. Please write "cardiac" and not "Cardiac".
Results:

Concerning daily v. on demand CRX: Theses results are unclear to me. The high number of members (96.8%) stating that daily CRX is commonly done is contradictory to the 33% stating that only intubated and mechanically ventilated patients. what is the reason therefore?

Discussion:

There are many data only given in the discussion. Please divide results and discussion. Some data are okay, but not as many. May enter a new section in "Results".

references: okay

Tables:

Table 5: the belonging of the p-value is unclear. Is it the difference between the Yes/No-Group (e.g.age, then there should be more results significant) or is it for one group? Sometime only one p-value is given for 7 or 8 different parameters.

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 recommend additional statistical review
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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