Reviewer’s report

Title: Intra-abdominal pressure in third trimester pregnancy complicated by acute pancreatitis: an observational study

Version: 2 Date: 20 April 2015

Reviewer: Guillaume DUCARME

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This is an observational study of pregnant women with acute pancreatitis in third trimester of pregnancy. Women were admitted in intensive care unit and intra-abdominal hypertension was measured and correlated with clinical, biological and obstetrical outcome. The study included only 17 patients. The study demonstrated that the incidence of intra-abdominal hypertension was higher in moderate or severe acute pancreatitis in third trimester of pregnancy, and was associated with worse maternal and neonatal outcome.

Abstract: Authors should add the size of the sample (17 women). I am not agree with the conclusion. The study only included pregnant women. No conclusion should be done regarding comparisons of data between pregnant and non-pregnant women.

Materials and methods: well explain.

Results: well explained and clear for the lecturer.

Minor Essential Revisions: The obstetrician should be interested on data which were not cited or analyzed as birth weight, transfer to neonatal intensive care unit...

Others informations should be deleted because they were already written in the tables. Then, the paragraph should be reduced.

Major Compulsory Revisions: I am very surprised concerning statistical analysis! Authors should conduct multivariate analyses because, in obstetrical subject, many parameters are confounders.

In the 3 cases of intrauterine fetal death, authors should add information concerning fetal -and placental pathology analysis. These informations are very important to correlate intrauterine fetal death to acute pancreatitis.

Discussion: I am not in agreement with the authors concerning the necessity for cesarean section in case of acute pancreatitis. Vaginal delivery should be a better mode of delivery to avoid surgical complications due to laparotomy in pancreatitis, even if literature recommend (decompressive laparotomy) in non pregnant patient. The literature concerning decompressive laparotomy in pregnant women in case of acute pancreatitis is unclear.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.