Reviewer’s report

Title: Influence of different preoperative fasting times on women and neonates in cesarean section: a retrospective analysis

Version: 1 Date: 15 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Jeanine Young

Reviewer's report:

Influence of different preoperative fasting times on puerperas and neonates in cesarean section: a retrospective study and analysis

Thank you for making the suggested revisions in Round 1.

I strongly advise the following revisions and an editor review for grammatical correctness.

Background, Page 3, Line 2: Please edit first opening sentence. Without context it is not possible to determine what the 'program' is that women will enter and could be misinterpreted as contradictory - for example saying medically driven but then saying no medical indication for the procedure.

Suggest: The increase in incidence of caesarean sections worldwide is associated with multiple factors, however evidence suggests that a considerable proportion continue to be driven by convenience without an evidence based/medical indication for the procedure (1).

Background, page 3, Line 3 Does an individual have 'regurgitation and aspiration' after 'vomiting' or rather isn't this risk associated with an increased risk of aspiration during regurgitation and/or vomiting.

Would suggest: '….so aspiration after regurgitation and/or vomiting may cause aspiration pneumonia.'

Ethics Statement, Page 4, Line 6-9

Would suggest rewriting for clarity and grammatical correctness: All women agreed to participate in this investigation and signed the informed consent before participating in this study. The investigation received approval from Research Ethics Committee…..The protocol was conducted in accordance with the relevant guidelines and regulations.

Inclusion criterion, Page 4: needs to include epidural block given that this is a stated criterion later on page 5, under Anesthetic methods.

Exclusion criterion Page 4

Change this to criteria - plural as criterion is plural

What does that mean 'placental implantation' - surely if pregnant women are being recruited you need to ensure she has a baby with a placenta that is implanted on the uterine wall.....
Data Collection, Page 5 (page 11), Line 8-10: A general definition of vomiting is unnecessary for this article; reviewer 2's comments relating to a definition of vomiting related to volume that constituted a 'vomiting' episode; unsure of relevance of (from anaesthesia to birth: yes or no) - and what this related to?


Anesthetic method
What is a traction response in relation to anesthetic? And state the 4 levels.

Page 9, Line 23: Correct: '….a risk of residual stomach contents which may lead to regurgitation….'

Discussion: Page 11, Line 11: these retrospective results cannot be used to determine cause and effect. Would suggest wording such as: '..displayed and obvious decrease compared to group C, D and E, which suggests that prolonged fasting of women increases the risk of acidosis in the neonates.

Firstly, this is a retrospective study, not a randomized controlled prospective study, and therefore there may be inherent bias within group allocation.

The first limitation contradicts the third comment, would suggest removing that statement relating to ethical issues with conducting RCTs unless further information is provided.

Conclusion

Insert 'to', to provide clarity around range.

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 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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