Reviewer's report

Title: Lung ultrasound: a useful tool in diagnosis and management of bronchiolitis

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Reviewer: Roberto Copetti

Reviewer's report:

The topic of this paper is very interesting. Different pictures of ultrasound bronchiolitis appearance are well described by the authors.

In particular, the ultrasound involvement of paravertebral areas is, in my knowledge, for the first time described.

The high inter-observer concordance is an important data that demonstrate the feasibility of lung ultrasound examination in infants.

Major Compulsory Revisions

The authors state that the lung ultrasound “permits the identification of those infants that are in need of supplementary oxygen” but it is not clear if lung ultrasound identifies patients that will need oxygen not identified by clinical evaluation. Are ultrasound findings able to intercept patients that will need supplementary oxygen in the next hours or days also when saturation is more than 94% or capillary blood oxygen tension is more than 45 mmHg. This is very important and should be clarified. Otherwise the role of lung ultrasound is questionable because nothing is added compared with clinical evaluation.

The pediatric sonographer found 9 normal ultrasound pattern, while 12 by radiologist sonographer in patients affected by bronchiolitis. This data should be explained and should be specified the clinical score in these patients.

Was lung ultrasound examination performed every day? Is it possible to know if these normal ultrasound infants developed ultrasound abnormalities during the next days?

Minor Essential Revisions

The “discussion” legend has been forgotten.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

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