Reviewer's report

Title: NEOnatal Central-venous Line Observational study on Thrombosis (NEOCLOT): evaluation of a national guideline on management of neonatal catheter-related thrombosis

Version: 1 Date: 04 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Sarah H. O'Brien

Reviewer's report:

Sol and colleagues have submitted a methodologic paper describing the NEOCLOT study - an observational evaluation of a national guideline for management of neonatal CVL-thrombosis that all 10 NICUs in the Netherlands are currently following. The paper is of interest and well written, the study is of great importance, and seeing this detailed expert guideline will be helpful to clinicians. A few comments/recommendations:

Page 10. Lines 26-31 and 46. Not clear why a project that was not considered Human Subjects or requiring IRB review, does require written or oral consent from families?


Page 16. Will data collection be actively performed by research assistants at the bedside? Or will there be reliance only on what already appears in the medical record?

Page 16. Lines 27-37. Where will these follow-up visits take place? Hematology clinics? At what specified time points?

Page 17. Table 3 could be deleted - not a main focus of the paper and the reference is provided.

Page 17. Lines 46-51. How can this logistic regression be performed when only patients with CVC-thrombosis are included in the study? No control population is described.

Page 25. Figure 1. In the occlusive column, when does that ultrasound take place? If a patient with high risk thrombosis has compete resolution after 24 hours of tPA, anticoaguation would really be stopped completely?
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.

No

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

Unable to assess

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I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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