Reviewer’s report

Title: Trans-hiatal Repair for Oesophageal and Junctional Perforation: A Case Series

Version: 1 Date: 21 Jan 2020

Reviewer: Zubair Bayat

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for your work in developing this manuscript. Some suggestions:

1) I feel that the greatest strength of this paper lies in the algorithm proposed - other studies may use it as a starting point, and it may guide clinical practice. For completeness sake, it may be worth noting in the figure caption (and/or the text) that the algorithm applies only to patients with acute esophageal/junctional perforations.

2) Many reports describing successful laparoscopic repair have been published in the past. In addition to the algorithm that has been developed, the literature review that has been undertaken will be of value going forward. When laparoscopic repair is undertaken, surgeons must accept that pleural effusions can be drained but not washed out. The authors might consider reporting how often patients (with salivary effusions) in previous literature require decortication in the future, given that they have already collected and synthesized this literature (if they feel this would be valuable).

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.

Unable to assess

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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