Reviewer’s report

Title: Cervical esophageal perforation caused by the use of bougie during laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy: a case report and review of the literature

Version: 0 Date: 06 Dec 2019

Reviewer: Rene Fahrner

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

I reviewed your manuscript with the title "Cervical esophageal perforation caused by the use of bougie during laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy: a case report and review of the literature".

It is an interesting and important topic, which is probably underestimated in the daily routine, but it is not completely new.

There are already case reports and summaries of esophageal perforations after bariatric surgery (e. g. Theodorou et al 2012 (already mentioned), Aljehani et al 2019). In 2016 there was a study dealing about different types of bougies and tube systems (Gagner et al). Please comment on that and include in the reference list.

It is somehow misleading, that the location of perforation is mentioned to be cervical (but then a thoracoscopy was performed) or thoracic inlet…-please clarify.

The figures are not self-explanatory - it would help to mark the important findings. In figure 3 I would define the different anatomic structures.

It is surprising that there is already a huge abscess after one day?

What was the rational to perform a muscle flap? Please discuss.

Best regards.

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.
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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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