Reviewer’s report

Title: The effect of low central venous pressure on hepatic surgical field bleeding and serum lactate in patients undergoing partial hepatectomy: a prospective randomized controlled trial

Version: 1 Date: 11 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Moritz Schmelzle

Reviewer's report:

Thank you very much for you research and manuscript. The hypothesis, relevance, methods and outcomes are well described in a transparent and sufficient manner. Some revisions/additional aspects are listed below.

1. No postoperative follow-up is described. Lowering the intraoperative blood pressure might favor postoperative complications such as delirium or renal insufficiency. While possible positive effects of low central venous pressure and therefore also reduction of the organ perfusion pressure (best described as Mean art. Pressure) are clearly investigated, possible adverse effects are not.

2. Under what circumstances was portal trail clamping applied? Was there a standardized protocol, e.g. matched to a score of the bleeding score of hepatic surgical field? Your data show that the PTC time was not lower in the group L (with fluid restriction AND lowered central venous pressure) which might indirectly show that surgical site bleeding was not reduced.

3. For representing non-normally distributed data we recommend using the median rather the mean value.

4. Resection extent and surgical approaches differ between groups and differences found might be biased, please comment in the Discussion section.

4. Some grammatical errors are left to be corrected
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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.

No

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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