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: 2 Date: 15 Nov 2019
Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses one or several testable research questions? (Brief or other article types: is there a clear objective?)

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with sufficient technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

Yes - the author's interpretation is reasonable

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? If not, can further revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Probably - with minor revisions
PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: Prospective RCT on fluid restriction v fluid restriction and low CVP. Introduction and Methodology reasonably clear, and previous reviewer comments have been addressed. The result and discussion sections are slightly confusing in places.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

Some minor comments:

1. Intra-op blood loss/bleeding measures: why not mention swab and suction losses, find it odd for a paper on liver surgery to use a bleeding score derived from ENT surgery.

2. Parenchymal transection technique in each group should be stated, it is a confounding factor for this study.

3. Should state number of cases for which PTC was used in each group, in addition to its duration of application.

4. You should state your age limits for this study ie 17-70years, as listed in Chinese Clinical Trial Registry.

5. Page 13, you mention liver transplantation, make it clearer that the manoeuvres undertaken during transplantation are focused on reducing portal hypertension bleeding.

6. Page 3, maybe better to rephrase "harvest" to remove R/L lobe for living donation.

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.

Yes

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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