Reviewer’s report

Title: REDUCING KIDNEY MOTION: OPTIMIZING ANESTHESIA AND COMBINING RESPIRATORY SUPPORT FOR RETROGRADE INTRARENAL SURGERY: A PILOT STUDY

Version: 0 Date: 31 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Olivier Traxer

Reviewer's report:

I revised ms. number "BURO-D-18-00403", entitled "REDUCING KIDNEY MOTION: OPTIMIZING ANESTHESIA AND COMBINING RESPIRATORY SUPPORT FOR RETROGRADE INTRARENAL SURGERY: A PILOT STUDY". In this study, the Authors evaluated a peculiar general anesthesia protocol in order to minimize kidney movement during RIRS. The study and its results look interesting, however some major remarks need to be addressed:

- "Subjective assessment via the questionnaire scale point values varied significantly before and after the application of CRS and were 2.1 2.3 2.6 and 3.7 3.8 4.0 respectively": please simplify and make it more clinically understandable; the scale was never introduce before, therefore it is difficult to understand in the abstract

- Spell out abbreviations (HFJV and SVMV)

- Briefly synthetize what the new anesthesia consists of in the abstract

- Please provide Table 1 with patients and stones characteristics, including results cited in the text

- Please detail stone position in the kidney in table 1

- Was URS possible in every case?

- Was UAS used?

- How long can this anesthesia be used safely?

- Please justify statistical tests used in the methods section, clearly specifying what measures (means? Medians? Proportions?) are being compared
Please confirm that you have included your review in the ‘Comments to Author’ box?
As a minimum standard, please include a few sentences that outline what you think are the authors’ hypothesis/objectives, their main results, and the conclusions drawn. Your report should constructively instruct authors on how they can strengthen their paper to the point where it may be acceptable for publication, or provide detailed reasons as to why the manuscript does not fulfill our criteria for consideration. Please supply appropriate evidence using examples from the manuscript to substantiate your comments. Please break your comments into two bulleted or numbered sections: major and minor comments.
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Yes

Are the methods appropriate and well described to allow independent reproduction of experiments?
Please state in the ‘Comments to Authors’ box below what you think are the strengths and weaknesses of the methods (study design, data collection, and data analysis), and what is required, if anything, to improve the quality of reporting

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please explain in the ‘Comments to Author’ box below.

No

Are you able to assess the statistics?
- Are the statistical test(s) used in this study appropriate and well described?
- Is the exact sample size (n) reported for each experimental group/condition (as a number, not a range)?
- Are the description of any error bars and probability values appropriate?
- Are all error bars defined in the corresponding figure legends?
- Has a sample size calculation been included, or a description and rationale about how sample sizes were chosen?

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No

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