Reviewer’s report

Title: Right anterolateral thoracotomy: an attractive alternative to repeat sternotomy for high-risk patients undergoing reoperative mitral and tricuspid valve surgery

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Reviewer: Leonid Sternik

Reviewer’s report:

I enjoyed reading this nice article. It addresses technical aspects for mitral surgery with or without tricuspid surgery in patients after sternotomy. I have several suggestions and questions:

1. I would call this article "Right anterolateral thoracotomy: an attractive alternative to repeat sternotomy for high risk patients undergoing reoperative mitral and tricuspid valve surgery", and not "valve surgery". Authors are not discussing aortic valve operations.

2. In cases when the dissection around the aorta for clamping is difficult, one can consider endo-balloon.

3. For mitral surgery one femoral vein cannula placed through the left atrium into the superior caval vein is usually enough.

4. I think that discussion about timing for tricuspid surgery, what valve to put is not for this article.

I wish to thank authors for this paper.

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Quality of written English
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