Reviewer’s report

Title: Quantifying the learning curve for pulmonary thromboendarterectomy

Version: 0 Date: 23 Jul 2017

Reviewer: N Tanabe

Reviewer's report:

This is a very unique paper showing the importance of learning curve for PEA.

Major

How many surgeons are involved in this study?

Is figure 1 for one surgeon?

For learning curve which factors are important, trained team or trained surgeon?

How many operations do surgeon need to experience for performing excellent PEA in your analysis?

Please provide the prevalence of residual pulmonary hypertension (postoperative mPAP>30mmHg or other definition) in T1, 2, 3.

For residual PH or dead cases instead of DHCA is there any other flection point in your analysis?

Recently more type 3 patients might be operated.

Is there any difference in surgical indication among T1to T3?

Before the first flection point PEA for type 3 might be difficult.

Minor

Please provide postoperative hemodynamic data in table 3.
**Level of interest**
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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

Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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