Reviewer’s report

Title: Extended use of Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation as Bridge to lung transplantation in two patients

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Reviewer: Clauden Louis

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for your interesting case reports describing patients with extensive preoperative extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation courses prior to lung transplantation. I believe this manuscript is interesting from a perspective of lessons learned. However I do not believe a conclusion is feasible in any manner giving both the rarity of such extended use of ECMO and the anecdotal expected limited survival.

It can be inferred that such a pre-operative course is of extremely small sample size. I do agree that these cases highlight complex decisions involving medical, ethical and allocation of limited resources.

The institution will have to establish their goals in regards to the nature and aggressiveness they choose to resuscitate and subsequently transplant patients understanding the dangers of such an operation on a marginal patient, likely serially transfused and transplanting a delicate organ(s) known to reject. The cases described may not necessarily support the conclusion of "some patients do survive."

Level of interest

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An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English

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