Author’s response to reviews

Title: Bleeding complications after cardiac surgery, before anticoagulation start and then with argatroban or heparin in the early postoperative setting

Authors:

Matthias Klingele (klingelemat@yahoo.fr)
Julia Enkel (julia_enkel@yahoo.de)
Timo Speer (t.speer@uks.eu)
Hagen Bomberg (hagenbomberg@web.de)
Lea Baerens (lea.baerens@web.de)
Hans-Joachim Schäfers (h-j.schaefers@uks.eu)

Version: 1 Date: 21 Dec 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

We would like to resubmit our revised manuscript, entitled “Bleeding complications after cardiac surgery, before anticoagulation start and then with argatroban or heparin in the early postoperative setting” for final consideration for publication in the Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

We want to say thank you to all reviewers for their multiple and constructive feedback! Based on their conform, major points we critically revised our article:

- more focused outlining of the evaluation of argatroban as anticoagulation and its actual bleeding complication risk.

- defining more clearly postoperative bleeding risk before start of anticoagulation and therefore being assigned to concomitant risk factors for bleeding complications.

- critical revision of results to a more condensed and easy to perceive presentation mode.

Based on the above incorporated critical feedback points for improvement we have verbally reworked the depiction of our study results as such. Meaning, we were able to bring it down to a single question and its answer: As our title outlines, the question of bleeding complications before and after start of anticoagulation and their comparability – heparin vs. argatroban – led to our retrospective study. Our results, presented as our answer, show the highest rate of bleeding complications before start of anticoagulation, and then a quite comparable risk of bleeding incidents under each anticoagulation.

We hope to meet your expectations of a revised manuscript and would be glad if it would be accepted for publication.
All authors have seen and approved the resubmitted manuscript. We thank you in advance for your time and efforts.

Yours sincerely

Matthias Klingele, MD,
for the authors