Reviewer's report

Title: sudden hypoxemia after uneventful laparoscopic cholecystectomy: Another form of SAM presentation-a case report

Version: 5 Date: 7 January 2015

Reviewer: Savino Spadaro

Reviewer's report:

The article under review represents the authors to present a case of a female patient who presented sudden hypoxemia after an uneventful cholecystectomy. They speculate that SAM-induced dynamic mitral regurgitation resulted in pulmonary edema and, thereby, hypoxemia.

As your report, many cases of systolic anterior motion of the mitral valve have been reported in literature. I believe that the case report needs a major overhaul in the presentation.

Furthermore, I have some comments for the authors:

As the viewpoint of primary question, in my opinion, the etiology of hypoxemia could be related to inadequate ventilation control and pulmonary edema. Patients submitted to general anesthesia have higher chances of developing postoperative hypoxemia. The latter, especially in the postoperative, is caused by inadequate ventilation control or by airway patency as a consequence of residual effects of anesthetics and/or neuromuscular blockers and inadequate ventilation/perfusion ratio caused mainly by atelectasis zones in lung-dependent regions. Clinical causes include equipment failure, endotracheal tube malfunction, hypoventilation, and decrease in functional residual capacity. Furthermore, pulmonary edema can result in hypoxemia in the postoperative period.

Improve the goal of case report. Take into account in discussion this factors: sex, type of anesthesia, site of operation, and preexisting pulmonary disease.

- Make clear the presence of risk factors for the development of hypoxemia, such as smoking and occupational exposure.

- Please comment in discussion the choice of laryngeal mask for this kind of surgery. Report the reference at support of this choice.

- What were the blood gas parameters?

Recent references are not included. (e.g. Modern management of systolic anterior motion of the mitral valve. Eur J Cardiothorac Surg. 2012)

Minor revision:

Please indicate details about the anesthetic drugs used: dosage and timing

Level of interest: An article of limited interest
Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests