

Authors' reply to Dr. Bailong's commentary: Assessing the sedation effect of dexmedetomidine during hysteroscopic surgery

We would like to thank Bailong et al¹ for their interest in our recently published article entitled "Comparison of sedation with dexmedetomidine vs propofol during hysteroscopic surgery: Single-centre randomized controlled trial" in the Journal.² We agree with the authors that both drugs (dexmedetomidine and propofol) should have been administered in identical syringes with the tubes covered. However, in our view this did not introduce observation bias. Because all haemodynamic data (mean arterial pressure, heart rate and oxygen saturation) were recorded from the patient's monitoring. All these data are numeric variables and the operator cannot affect these values. In addition, the forms for the Riker Sedation-Agitation Scale and Visual Analogue Scale were filled according to the patient's response. The patients responded to the questions independently from the operator who did not have any directive effect on the patient's responses.

Second, Bailong et al suggest that dexmedetomidine is contraindicated in the presence of severe sinus bradycardia.³ We fully agree with the authors about this topic. However, no patient was excluded from our study due to this reason, although some patients were excluded because of heart rate >120/min. Therefore, we did not indicate that severe sinus bradycardia was one of exclusion criteria. Nevertheless, it would have been useful to indicate severe sinus bradycardia as one of exclusion criteria for readers of journal.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None to declare.

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