Prone positioning in high-flow nasal cannula for COVID-19 patients with severe hypoxemia: A pilot study

Reviewer

This is a well written article which provides important implication for the treatment of COVID-19 patients. I have some minor comments:

1. In figure 1, I suppose there are multiple pairwise comparisons for before and after prone position (i.e. one patient can have multiple pone positions in one day, which can be multiplied by multiple days). Thus, the comparison should also consider the intra-patient variance.

Reply: Thanks to the reviewer's suggestion. Patients have multiple pone positioning during the study periods. Arterial blood was collected before and after prone position at the first time, but it was not collected every time before and after prone position later on. However, the SpO_2 and hemodynamic parameters were monitored by physicians and nurses closely. Figure 1 showed the ABG analysis before and after prone position at the first time.

2. More baseline characteristics, for example, time from disease onset, could be included. From our experience, those with long term treatment can have worse prognosis if not properly treated at early stage.

Reply: We totally agree with the reviewer. We added it in Table 1.

3. Can you provide some CT images for comparing those before and after prone position during high-flow?

Reply: All patients were followed up by CT scan every week. Patients in this study experienced severe hypoxemia, therefore, they did not receive CT scan before and after prone position during HFNC for safety concerns.