

Peer Review File

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Reviewer A

Comment 1: The authors present a single center, retrospective study to examine if patient preoperative disposition impacts complication rates after a diagnostic surgical lung biopsy. The authors present a comprehensive review of the literature, discuss the limitations of their study, and contextualize their findings in relationship to the known and available data. The study is well written and quite informative and will benefit the field. Well done.

Reply 1: Thank you for your time in reviewing this manuscript.

Changes in the text: none

Reviewer B

The topic is interesting and the paper is quite well written. The article covers a very interesting and current topic. Nevertheless, in my opinion, some parts need to be improved, I have some comments:

Comment 1: Conclusions. Patients requiring ICU before DLB had significantly higher rates of mortality and postoperative complications than other patients. The risks/benefits of surgery and patient goals of care should be carefully considered before performing DLB on critically ill patients. Abstract might be beneficial to include a sentence in the abstract that briefly summarizes the key findings of the study. This can provide readers with a quick overview of the research.

Reply 1: We have edited the conclusions section of the abstract for clarity and message.

Changes in the text: Edits in the conclusion section of the abstract

Comment 2: Introduction. Surgical diagnostic lung biopsies (DLB) are commonly performed to provide histologic or pathologic tissue evaluation for patients with unspecified interstitial lung disease or pulmonary disease of unclear etiology. DLBs are thought to be particularly useful when a confirmatory tissue diagnosis may guide subsequent changes in therapeutic medical interventions. I suggest that you include some information in order to complete the manuscript. Below you can find some works that could give useful ideas in expanding this part. I suggest to add these references:

a-Transbronchial lung cryobiopsy and pulmonary fibrosis: A never-ending story?

Heliyon. 2023 Mar 25;9(4):e14768. doi: 10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e14768.

b-The Evolving Concept of the Multidisciplinary Approach in the Diagnosis and Management of Interstitial Lung Diseases. *Diagnostics (Basel)*. 2023 Jul 21;13(14):2437. doi: 10.3390/diagnostics13142437.

c-Transbronchial Lung Cryobiopsy in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis: A State of the Art Review. *Adv Ther*. 2019 Sep;36(9):2193-2204. doi: 10.1007/s12325-019-01036-y.

d- Evaluation of Correlations between Genetic Variants and High-Resolution Computed Tomography Patterns in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis. *Diagnostics (Basel)*. 2021 Apr 23;11(5):762. doi: 10.3390/diagnostics11050762.

Reply 2: We have added suggested references b and d to the introduction and made some associated comments to expand on the introduction. However, references a and c are studying transbronchial rather than surgical lung biopsies and thus are less relevant to the study.

Changes in the text: We have edited text in the first and second paragraph of the manuscript introduction.

Comment 3: We hypothesized that patients requiring intensive care have higher rates of postoperative complications than other inpatients or outpatients, but that these patients would also have their medical therapy changed more often when compared to other patients undergoing DLB. Understanding these associations may help guide surgical decision making in these patient populations. Please, improve the description of the aim of the study.

Reply 3: We agree and have change the text within the aims section of the manuscript to make it clearer.

Changes in the text: Edits to third paragraph of manuscript introduction.

Comment 4: DISCUSSION

Results from our study of 285 consecutive patients undergoing diagnostic lung biopsy describe the differences in postoperative complications after DLB and subsequent changes to medical therapy based on patient preoperative disposition. The discussion section needs to be improved. It could be interesting to record the aim of the study. It is necessary to be more concise in the presentation of the facts, clarifying the results obtained and comparing them with previous or similar studies. However, it is interesting to answer the questions that arise from these results, backed up by published literature.

Reply 4: While we believe much of the content in the discussion is pertinent to the results and the commentary is necessary to properly discuss the study, we have edited the discussion thoroughly to improve conciseness and reduce redundancy.

Changes in the text: Edits to text throughout the discussion section of the manuscript.