Questionable Ethical Clearance, Incorrect Recommendations and Indiscernible Merit

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Dear Sir,

1. I am writing regarding an article “ASSESSMENT OF EFFICACY OF SUBMENTAL INTUBATION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF MIDFACE AND PAN-FACIAL TRAUMA”, published in JMOS, Jul–Sep 2015 issue, pages 674–681. Following are my observations.
 - (a) Majority of the cases mentioned in the results vide Table 1 (Results) are not indicated for submental intubation. In fact, it appears to be a clear case of incorrect study design/incorrect inclusion criteria/unethical study, wherein an invasive procedure was performed in majority of the cases included in this study where it was not indicated [1].
 - (b) The authors incorrectly recommend that “*sub-mental intubation should be chosen whenever possible in cases of PURELY maxillofacial trauma*”. There are specific indications for the technique and most cases would not qualify for it routinely [2].
 - (c) The conclusions put forth already well established facts and are completely irrelevant to the title of the publication.
2. The publication of this article raises some pertinent questions
 - (a) How did the ethics committee approve of an invasive procedure where it was not indicated?
 - (b) What was the compulsion on the reviewer to accept such an article for publication?
 - (c) Should the article not be retracted?
3. If you feel that the observations are valid, necessary action may be taken at your end.

References

1. Gadre KS (2010) Transmylohyoid/submental intubation: review, analysis, and refinements. J Craniofac Surg 21:516–519
2. Das S (2012) Submental intubation: a journey over the last 25 years. J Anesthesiol Clin Pharmacol 28(3):291–303

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