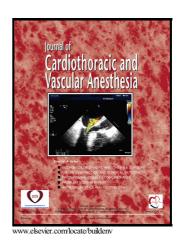
Author's Accepted Manuscript

Unplanned Reintubation Following Cardiac Surgery: The Need for a Prospective Multi-Centre Study and Predictive Scoring System

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DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1053/j.jvca.2017.04.035

S1053-0770(17)30427-5

Reference: YJCAN4117

PII:

To appear in: Journal of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Anesthesia

Cite this article as: Evan Wild, Carlos Corredor and Sibtain Anwar, Unplanned Reintubation Following Cardiac Surgery: The Need for a Prospective Multi-Centre Study and Predictive Scoring System, *Journal of Cardiothoracic and Vascular Anesthesia*, http://dx.doi.org/10.1053/j.jvca.2017.04.035

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Unplanned reintubation following cardiac surgery: the need for a prospective multi-centre study and predictive scoring system

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Dear Editor,

We are grateful to the authors, Dr. Beverly et al, and the Journal for sharing with us this detailed analysis of the NSQIP database for unplanned reintubation risk in more than 18,500 cardiac surgery patients (1). The study highlights the worrying association between perioperative unplanned reintubation and worse outcomes in cardiac surgical patients.

The concern with such a retrospective study, of course, is the variability of care amongst the 400 centres as well as the limitation to only those variables already collected, both potentially confounding the outcomes beyond the risk factors analysed and reported.

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