

## **Reply to the Reviewer #1' comments**

### **Review #1**

**Q1:** The topic is interesting, the design was fine, the results were good and the discussion was convincing.

**R1:** Thank you for your wise comments and for your supporting.

### **Review #2**

**Q1:** Title may be modified to Unexpected Difficult Airway Due to Severe Upper Trachea Distortion-a case study Justification for 6 authors;

**R1:** We appreciate you for such careful comments. We have revised the article title to Unexpected Difficult Airway Due to Severe Upper Trachea Distortion-a case study.

**Q2:** Please check guideline for publishing a case study statements like anesthesiologists should clinically pay close attention to unexpected difficult airways, especially in emergency surgery patients' to be avoided.

**R2:** Many thanks for your professional comments. Related guideline compiled by Jeffrey L et al and published in the journal of Anesthesiology, is intended for use by anesthesiologists and all other individuals who perform anesthesia care or airway management<sup>1</sup>. More and more unexpected difficult airway case reports have been reported in succession<sup>2,3</sup>.

### References

1. Apfelbaum JL, Hagberg CA, Connis RT, Abdelmalak BB, Agarkar M, Dutton RP, Fiadjoe JE, Greif R, Klock PA, Mercier D, Myatra SN, O'Sullivan EP, Rosenblatt WH, Sorbello M, Tung A. 2022 American Society of Anesthesiologists Practice Guidelines for Management of the Difficult Airway. *Anesthesiology*. 2022 Jan 1;136(1):31-81. doi: 10.1097/ALN.0000000000004002. PMID: 34762729.
2. Li M, Zhang L. Management of unexpected difficult airway in perioperative period: A case report. *Asian J Surg*. 2021 Dec;44(12):1564-1565. doi: 10.1016/j.asjsur.2021.08.041. Epub 2021 Sep 7. PMID: 34503871.
3. Kohashi Y, Yamamoto T, Igarashi M, Nishimaki H. Unexpected difficult airway due to an undiagnosed congenital lingual thyroglossal duct cyst in a neonate without stridor: A case

report. Clin Case Rep. 2022 Feb 23;10(2):e05475. doi: 10.1002/ccr3.5475. PMID: 35228882; PMCID: PMC8864569.

### **Review #3**

**Q1:** This case report describing unexpected severe tracheal deformity in patients receiving general anesthesia is interesting. Its information is important for all anesthesiologists. I would recommend it for acceptance after the minor corrections. In Picture 3, shooting location of three images is not clear. Each location should be indicated in Picture 2.

**R1:** Thank you for your careful review. We have revised the figures, finally I hope it can meet your requirements.

**Q2:** In addition, “Picture 1, 2 and 3” is unusual word in scientific report. Use “Figure” instead of “Picture”.

**R2:** Many thanks for such a professional comment, according to the reviewer’s suggestion, all the words “picture” in the article have been instead to figure.