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Dear Journal of Visualized Experiments Editorial Report:

Enclosed in this submission is our original work entitled "Electromagnetic Navigation Transthoracic Nodule Localization for Minimally Invasive Thoracic Surgery."

Due to an increasing detection of lung nodules, there is a growing demand for excision of small, sub-solid lung nodules via minimally invasive thoracic surgery. Intra-operatively these lung nodules can be difficult to find highlighting the importance of nodule localization. Lung nodule localization using dye marking can now be performed via a novel electromagnetic navigated trans-thoracic needle access platform. This allows for visual identification of the nodule intra-operatively. This method potentially offers advantages to other forms of nodule localization including decreased time between localization and surgery.

The technique is described in a step by step method to optimize nodule localization and successful resection when performing minimally invasive thoracic surgery. We have made adaptations to previously described methods which have increased our yield and led to successful surgical resection. We believe our methods provide important tools which can be adapted at other institutions and lead to improved patient care.

We believe the following members are appropriate experts to review our work:

1. Lonny Yarmus – Johns Hopkins lyarmus@jhmi.edu
2. Christopher Gilbert - Swedish Hospital Cancer Center
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All of the authors have contributed to the work and concur with the submission. The material in this manuscript has not been previously reported, nor is it under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Jason Akulian, MD MPH FCCP on behalf of the co-authors