Reviewer's report

Title: SPECT myocardial perfusion imaging as an adjunct to coronary calcium score for the detection of hemodynamically significant coronary artery stenosis

Version: 3 Date: 3 November 2012

Reviewer: Maksymilian Opolski

Reviewer's report:

I appreciate the comprehensive response of von Ziegler F et al., and advocate the publication of the revised manuscript in BMC Cardiovascular Disorders. Enclosed you will find my comments.

Major compulsory revisions:

I accept the adopted research scenario of using CS as a gate-keeper in symptomatic patients sent to nuclear stress testing before coronary angiography. Thank you for the in-depth corrections of the introduction and discussion sections.

Minor essential revisions:

The argument for providing more robust definition of significant coronary artery disease with a cut-off value of 75% luminal narrowing seems to be rationale and logically consistent, especially with respect to SPECT-MPI true positive findings. On the other hand, a possible clinical scenario of a patient with positive CS and SPECT-MPI findings and a coronary luminal narrowing between 50-75% might be postulated. In this particular case, according to the adopted definition of significant coronary artery disease, both the CS and MPI findings should be regarded as false-positive resulting in deferral from coronary revascularization - a rather controversial management in modern clinical decision-making.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.