Reviewer’s report

Title: Influence of calcification on the mechanical stability of plaque in three-dimensional carotid bifurcation model

Version: 2 Date: 16 November 2011

Reviewer: Yiannis Chatzizisis

Reviewer’s report:

In this work the authors investigate the effect of plaque constituents (i.e lipid core, fibrous cap, calcification) on plaque stability using a carotid artery model.

Specific comments:
1. The methods should be more focused avoiding extensive description of prior works
2. The results and discussion should be on separate sections. The greatest part of the conclusion should be moved to the discussion.
3. The limitations of the study should be clearly addressed.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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