Reviewer's report

Title: Early accelerated senescence of circulating endothelial progenitor cells in premature coronary artery disease patients in a developing country- a case control study

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Reviewer: Madhu Khullar

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Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Authors report an inverse correlation between EPCs and TG levels, however, their data shows that PCAD group had lower TGs and EPC number as compared to Control group.

2. Authors have discussed that Increased TGs in PCAD may be contributing to senescence and reduced EPC in PCAD, but the PCAD group has lower TGs than controls.

3. Smoking has been shown to be a major independent predictor for the reduction of EPC levels, did authors examine this in their patient group?

4. Since most of the CAD patients were on Statins and these drugs are known to promote EPC mobilization, proliferation, migration, adhesion, differentiation and reduce senescence and apoptosis independent of their serum lipid-lowering effect. Authors need to discuss this vis-a-vis their results. Was there any correlation between duration or dose of Statin treatment and EPC number and senescence?

5. Is atherosclerosis the culprit for low EPC and increased senescence rather than age? If so, what are the factors contributing to this? Authors need to elaborate on this aspect.

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