Reviewer's report

Title: Body Mass Index in Chronic Heart Failure: Association with biomarkers of neurohormonal activation, inflammation and endothelial dysfunction

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Reviewer: GULTEN TACOY

Reviewer's report:

The authors evaluated the relationship between BMI and biomarkers in CHF. They found that BNP and adiponectin levels were related with BMI. It is very good known issue in heart failure patients. It is obesity paradox. There are a lot of papers about this issue. Therefore the major result of this study doesn't contribute to current knowledge.

The reason of CHF is not clear. Atherosclerotic coronary artery disease or idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy may have different effects on biomarkers. The authors must detailed evaluated this issue in discussion.

Only there is one important issue which the authors demonstrated that "Plasma levels of #-defensins were not affected by BMI in the present study thus, indicating that the immune system is not directly linked to the progressive weight loss observed in CHF with cachexia." It is true for this study but not enough. With only one biomarker this assumption is not completely true.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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