Reviewer's report

Title: Systematic study of the effects of lowering low-density lipoprotein-cholesterol on regression of coronary atherosclerotic plaques using intravascular ultrasound

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Reviewer: Shigemasa Tani

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript is a meta-analysis of LDL-C reductions and coronary artery plaque regression in response to statins. It is a very interesting study in regard to performing statin therapy. It seems that the content of this manuscript would be more complete if the authors clarified the points below.

1) In the Discussion the authors state: “Intensive lowering LDL-C (rosuvastatin mean 33 mg daily and atorvastatin mean 60 mg daily) with #17 months of duration could lead to the regression of CAP, LDL-C level should be reduced by #40% or to a target level #78 mg/dL for regressing CAP.” Since the plaque regression response to statins seems to vary with race, it would seem that an assessment according to racial differences is also needed (e.g., Japanese and Westerners).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

No