Reviewer's report

Title: Revascularization and cardioprotective drug treatment in acute coronary syndrome: How did they impact on patients' survival when delivered as usual care

Version: 1 Date: 3 February 2006

Reviewer: Tom Quinn

Reviewer's report:

General

This is an interesting study which purports to demonstrate the value of aggressive treatment of patients with acute coronary syndromes. It is encouraging to note that patients exposed to the key evidence based measures did better than those who had 'suboptimal' care.

The data are almost a decade old (1998) and I wondered if longer term (i.e. more than 2 year) outcome data were available.

I would not consider myself competent to comment on the statistical methods.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

'ACS' is poorly defined and it may be helpful to have information available on the baseline characteristics of patients on entry - type of ACS presentation (e.g. STEMI, non-STEMI, biomarker release, blood pressure, delay in starting reperfusion where provided, proportions not receiving thrombolytic treatment where indicated, etc). All of these factors influence the outcome.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes

Declaration of competing interests:

I am a member of an advisory board for Boehringer Ingelheim