Reviewer's report

Title: Adenosine preconditioning attenuates hepatic reperfusion injury in the rat by preventing the down-regulation of endothelial nitric oxide synthase

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Reviewer: Prof Giorgio Della Rocca

Level of interest: A paper of considerable general medical or scientific interest

Advice on publication: Accept after discretionary revisions
  a) Discretionary revisions

The paper deals with a very interesting topic: ischemia-reperfusion injury, that can be applied to so many field of interest. The use of I.V. adenosine seems to decrease the reperfusion injury in this animal model. It may be of higher interest if applied on human beings. The discussion section may be extended as it may be direct to clinical application in solid organ transplantations.

b) Compulsory revisions

page 5. Methods - Experimental procedures.
Line 3: change Hypnorm with its pharmacological compound.
Line 6. Lectromed UK: model and Town are missing.
Line 24. You have to justify the arterial route of administration.
Line 1. "The activation of pro-inflammatory genes with the subsequent expression of pro-inflammatory cytokines.............involved in the pathogenesis of hepatic reperfusion injury" is to supported by literature. You can add a reference or you have to address that it is suggestive but it is only an author's opinion.
Line 11. "Adenosine, by preventing....." it is the same reported above, as the only reference you cite is n. 12 (line 17) dealing with cardiac ischemia-reperfusion and not with the liver.
Line 22. "By altering blood flow...." Add reference or address it is an author's position.
Table 1.
You have to report in the table the p values (written in the text)
This table need to be changed as it is too omogeneous. You have to put in evidenve the firs column
on the right in which you report the groups and the results reported in the column of geometric mean, as this is the main findings of this paper.

**Competing interests:**

None declared.