Reviewer's report

Title: Lipoprotein lipase responds similarly to tinzaparin as to conventional heparin during haemodialysis

Version: 1 Date: 4 September 2010

Reviewer: David MAKANJUOLA

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written paper, which asks a straightforward and provides an answer to this. Limitations to the methods are clearly stated. The methods are well described and the discussion and conclusion are well balanced and supported by the data available.

- Major Compulsory Revisions - None.

- Minor Essential Revisions
  Suggested revisions:
  1 - The authors state that some patients refused to fast prior to having samples taken during the study. The comparison with historical lipid profiles leaves open the possibility that some of the patients might have been fasting when the previous samples were analysed, but not during the study period. If this is the case, it should also be mentioned as a limitation to interpretation of some of the findings in the study.

  2 - The authors’ data show that Tinzaparin leads to higher LPL activity at 40 minutes than UFH. It would therefore be expected that this would lead to lower Triglyceride levels at this time point than is seen with UFH. The data however, suggests the opposite – the authors say in their discussion “we found that this early fall of plasma TG was less marked with the LMW-heparin than with the UF-heparin.” If the authors have an explanation for this, it would be worth adding it to the discussion section.

  3 - The authors should be choose which they want and be consistent in the use of either “Haemodialysis” or “Hemodialysis”. (Minor issue, not for publication).

  4 - Also, Kt/V should be used instead of KT/V. (Minor issue, not for publication).

- Discretionary Revisions – None.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have been on an advisory board for LEO pharmaceuticals, makers of Tinzaparin in the past and have received an honorarium for it.