Reviewer’s report

Title: Do statins modify the risk of delayed graft function in renal transplantation?

Version: 2 Date: 30 January 2012

Reviewer: Raj Thuraisingham

Reviewer’s report:

This manuscript outlines the findings of a retrospective observational study on the effect of statin use on delayed graft function in renal transplantation. The limitations of the study include its non randomised retrospective nature. In addition given that the donors statin use was not recorded and the fact that statins were not administered in the peri-operative period further diminish the usefulness of these findings. The authors though clearly acknowledge these issues in the manuscript.

Major compulsory revisions
1. The use of antihypertensives especially ACEi/ARBs in the pre and preoperative period is not clearly stated - this needs to be clarified as these drugs in the early post operative period could influence early graft function
2. The use of dopamine/ionotropes in the post operative periods also needs to be clarified for the reasons stated above.
3. Episodes of rejection need to be recorded as early rejection may present as DGF.
4. Furthermore the cross match/immunological details of the transplants need to be recorded. Transplantation across low level donor specific antibodies or a low level flow positive crossmatch are risk factors for early rejection and hence DGF. Similarly high PRA in recipients has also been shown to be a risk factor for DGF. This too needs to be examined

Minor essential Revisions
Nil

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests