Reviewer’s report

Title: Impaired renal function impacts negatively on vascular stiffness in patients with coronary artery disease

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Reviewer: Ziyad Al-Aly

Reviewer’s report:

This is a study by Rossi and collaborators that examined whether renal function is associated with vascular stiffness in patients with CAD. The authors conclude that renal function is a determinant of vascular stiffness even in patients with severe atherosclerotic disease.

I have few comments:

The hypothesis underpinning the research question is not sufficiently clear. Also, the research question is not very clear to me either. The authors state in the introduction that the aim is to examine whether renal function and cad have additive effect, but the design of the statistical analyses does not seem suitable to address the research question satisfactorily. The authors may consider undertaking formal interaction analyses to 1) Examine whether cad status modified the association between eGFR and PWV and 2) examine whether eGFR variable modifies the association between cad and pwv. The analyses currently undertaken and the results as presented simply do not rigorously support the conclusion of the authors.

The data presented in table 2 and 3 is interesting but does not answer the question raised by the authors.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests