Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical predictors of statins prescription in acute ischemic stroke patients: findings from the Lombardia Stroke Registry

Version: 3 Date: 4 December 2013

Reviewer: Cheng-Hsien Lu

Reviewer's report:

The paper is greatly improved over the previous version, but some issues remain. The major issue is that data related to raw values of blood test results (e.g. blood glucose, cholesterol, inflammatory markers,…) are in fact unavailable. In my opinion, the level of cholesterol, HDL and LDL, the stroke subtype of TOAST classification (Large vessels diseases and Lacunar stroke), and the underlying diseases for statin prescription (e.g. Hepatitis B and C, and myopathy, etc) were the major factors for the statins prescription or not. The LDL cholesterol levels above 100 mg/dl, is recorded as dyslipidemia in this study; however; to my opinion, the level of cholesterols being 101 or 180 mg/dl is quite critical for the physicians to decide whether to prescribe statin or not, and it may influence the statistical results and have a statistical bias. Consequently, the conclusions that can be drawn are very limited.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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'