Reviewer's report

Title: Paracentesis after central retinal artery occlusion: a tenable therapy?

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Reviewer: Se Joon Woo

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Anterior chamber paracentesis is a procedure often used in CRAO patients without proven evidence. Thus, this paper can be valuable providing the evidence of exact therapeutic gain by paracentesis although the study design is similar to that by Atebara NH et al (ref 9).

Major compulsory revisions

1. Abstract. It would be more informative if authors describe the mean BCVA of each group in addition to the p value.
2. Methods. Authors should mention the approval of this study protocol by ethics committee.
3. Methods. Authors set the primary endpoints as the VA 3 days after treatment. However, improvement of visual gain can take place later than 3 days. Most studies use 1 month VA as the treatment outcome. (Reference: Efficacy and safety of intra-arterial thrombolysis in central retinal artery occlusion. Ahn SJ, Kim JM, Hong JH, Woo SJ, Ahn J, Park KH, Han MK, Jung C. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 2013 Nov 21;54(12):7746-55.) Thus, I recommend authors to use 1 month VA in addition to 3 day VA as the outcome measures and cite the above article.
4. The anatomic improvement does not always coincide with functional improvement. Angiographic data within 3 days is required to evaluate whether the paracentesis improved retinal arterial perfusion even without visual improvement. If authors did not performed fundus fluorescein angiography, they should mention the lack of angiographic examination as a limitation of this study.
5. As this study is not a randomized prospective study, potential selection bias should be mentioned as one of the limitations.
6. Table 3. The proportion of patients who underwent isovolemic hemodilution should be compared between two groups as the hemodilution may influence on the visual outcome.
7. Data about systemic comorbidities are not the main objective in this study. Thus, discussion and conclusion about them should be more concise than the current form.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.