Reviewer's report

Title: Trabeculectomy with versus without Releasable Sutures for Glaucoma: A Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Version: 2 Date: 16 January 2014

Reviewer: Nicola Orzalesi

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Metanalysis is a powerful statistical methodology largely used to access the validity of medical and surgical procedures to be generalized in the clinical practice. However, it demands solid starting points represented by the number and the quality of the studies considered. The present metanalysis included only 6 articles and a limited number of patients. Five out of six articles were published in second class journals where less stringent peer review may be presumed. MMC which may substantially modify the postop course of surgeries was used only in four out of six studies. The many other limitations of the study were honestly acknowledged by the authors in the discussion section (page 10).

The assumption that complications like hypotony and flat anterior chamber due to an excess of filtration are reduced with releasable sutures is paradoxical as tight closure of the scleral flap is mandatory in a regular trabeculectomy with MMC as well as in the releasable sutures procedure. And cannot be released!

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

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

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