Reviewer's report

Title: Does decreasing serum uric acid level prevent hypertension? - A nested RCT in cohort study: Rationale, methods, and baseline characteristics of study cohort

Version: 6 Date: 23 July 2013

Reviewer: Sunil V Badve

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed most of the comments. However, the following issues are not addressed appropriately.

1. Potential confounding due to targeting multiple risk factors that are common for both hyperuricemia and hypertension, thereby decreasing the ability to draw meaningful conclusion

2. Not providing any supporting evidence for the assumptions for sample size calculation.

If the authors are unable to address these points, it should be discussed as 'limitations of the study'.

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 am one of the chief investigators for the CKD-FIX Study.