Reviewer's report

Title: Soluble receptor for advanced glycation end products as an indicator of pulmonary vascular injury after cardiac surgery

Version: 2 Date: 21 August 2013

Reviewer: Shu Qiang

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Minor Essential Revisions
The authors have responded and this is a much improved manuscript. Now, there is one last problem they have to clarify. As I have said that “they could not make the conclusions that the lung vascular injury after cardiac surgery was mediated by sRAGE”. In my opinion, the conclusions of an article were the summary of results, but not inference. According to their findings, they just explored the relationship of plasma sRAGE levels and the development of lung vascular injury after cardiac surgery. In addition, in the logistic regression, the operation time was also independent associated with the occurrence of lung injury. In fact, the elevated levels of sRAGE were correlated with the operation time and cardiopulmonary bypass time according to previous studies. The operation make the sRAGE level elevate and the pulmonary leak index increase in the present study, presumably. So they can only conclude that sRAGE is a biomarker, but not a mediator of lung vascular injury.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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