Reviewer's report

Title: One, Two and Three-Dimensional Ultrasound Measurements of Carotid Atherosclerosis Before and After Cardiac Rehabilitation: Preliminary results of a Randomized Controlled Trial

Version: 1 Date: 12 October 2013

Reviewer: ELISABETTA BIANCHINI

Reviewer's report:

This study aimed to evaluate various ultrasound measurements of carotid atherosclerosis before and after cardiac rehabilitation (CCR).

In my opinion, this manuscript addressed an interesting problem and it is well written, but it suffers an important limitation: the very small sample size. For this reason it should be considered for publication in “Cardiovascular Ultrasound“ only after that major revisions will be correctly answered.

Major Revisions:
1)Methods.
The authors clearly stated the limitation regarding the small sample size. However, in my opinion this is not enough in order to draw conclusions that can add valuable information to the current literature. More subjects are needed in order to improve the clinical implications of this interesting study. I would suggest at least to double the sample.

Minor Essential Revisions:
1) Abstract-Methods: please make clearer the number and type of control subjects.
2) Methods-page 6: here again please make clearer the number and type of control subjects.

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