Reviewer’s report

Title: Relationship between carotid intima-media thickness and coronary angiographic findings: a prospective study

Version: 3 Date: 1 December 2009

Reviewer: Eugenia Capati

Reviewer’s report:

I’ve read the revised version of the above referenced manuscript. Authors have modified significantly the manuscript according to the referee’s suggestions and made a careful revaluation of the methods and statistical analysis. The logistic regression model revealed carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT) and hypertension as significant predictors of CAD in this population of patients and confirms, consistently with the literature, the association between CIMT and presence and extent of CAD. However, the study population is too small to “extrapolate the data to the clinical practice and to suggest that these patients should be evaluated for CAD”. Certainly, an increased CIMT identifies a category of patients at high risk for cardiovascular events and a strict control of atherosclerotic risk factors should be recommended, but more extensive data and prospective clinical trials are necessary to state that this category should be evaluated for CAD. The decision of evaluation for coronary artery disease should remain a clinical judgment based on symptoms and evidence of myocardial ischemia, not based on a surrogate marker of atherosclerosis. Please tone down your conclusions and rephrase the abstract’s conclusions.

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.