Reviewer's report

Title: Standardized Ultrasound Evaluation of Carotid Stenosis for Clinical Trials: University of Washington Ultrasound Reading Center

Version: 1 Date: 22 August 2010

Reviewer: Liz Andrea V. Baroncini

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Dr. Kirk W. Beach et al wrote an interesting article about the duplex Doppler ultrasound waveform velocity that is used routinely in many laboratories to classify the carotid artery stenosis. They showed in detail how the Doppler angle influences in the final velocities reported findings and raised some questions that should be clarify in future studies. Each single laboratory should have their own protocols, but when a large trial is in progress, a centralized reading center should unify the methods. I agree with the authors.

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.