Reviewer's report

Title: Comparative measurement of CNP and NT-proCNP in human blood samples: a methodological evaluation.

Version: 2 Date: 4 March 2013

Reviewer number: 1

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This revision benefits from some clarification and discussion of the issues raised, but no new data is included. The study continues to suffer from a very low number of subjects studied and the very high variability of the results.

The primary conclusion that NTproCNP is stable in serum and plasma, over time a RT is reasonable, as is the deduction that this is the better peptide to measure to reflect CNP status.

The CNP assay results raise more questions than answers (Why are levels higher when measured in samples collected in sodium citrate? Why are levels 1,000 fold higher in the ELISA?). The authors provide only generic speculation, without exploring the issues experimentally. Without this effort, these data are not helpful.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.