Reviewer’s report

Title: Coronary Collaterals and Risk for Restenosis After Percutaneous Coronary Interventions: A Meta-Analysis

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Reviewer: Simon Redwood

Reviewer’s report:

This is a very good meta analysis of the association between coronary collaterals and restenosis after bare metal stenting (with 2 studies of balloon angioplasty only). The statistical methods seem sound (although I am not a statistician!). I have a few comments which I think would strengthen the article.

1. Three of the studies are in the setting of acute MI. Do the authors think it valid to measure collaterals, particularly CFI, in this setting? I refer to Sezer (NEJM) where they in fact suggested that CFI was associated with larger infarcts and thus associated with microvascular dysfunction. At the very least this should be brought into the discussion.

2. Is this association independent of known factors associated with restenosis - can a multivariate analysis be performed to determine this? In our paper (Perera, reference 21), we found no association between collaterals and restenosis measured angiographically and by volumetric IVUS, a very sensitive measure.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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