Reviewer's report

Title: Acetylcysteine for prevention of contrast-induced nephropathy after intravascular angiography: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

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Reviewer: shereif H rezkalla

Reviewer's report:

I appreciate the changes the authors made in the manuscript. I think now it is in a better form for being accepted. There is still one minor essential revision that they need to address in the discussion. A new paper published by Briguori C, Colombo A, et al, needs to be included in the discussion. This study addresses N-Acetylcysteine Versus Fenoldopm Mesylate to Prevent Contrast Agent-Associated Nephrotoxicity (JACC 2004;44:762-5). It showed that N-acetylcysteine was more effective with a p value of 0.019. This study was a prospective randomized study. The paper showed that N-acetylcysteine is useful during coronary angiography to prevent contrast agent-associated nephrotoxicity.

I am certainly not against a large randomized study but certainly this will be beneficial to show which subgroups of patients may have most benefits and to shed further guidelines on the use of N-acetylcysteine. It will further show us once and for all and without any reasonable doubt whether or not N-acetylcysteine is indeed beneficial. Until then, however, I think the use of such a drug with the usual techniques of hydration, use of bicarb, and use of minimal dye in this group of patients needs to be always followed.

Thanks again for giving me this opportunity for review.