Reviewer’s report

Title: IVC CLAMP: Infrahepatic Inferior Vena Cava Clamping during hepatectomy - A randomised controlled trial in an interdisciplinany setting [NCT00732979]

Version: 3 Date: 31 July 2009

Reviewer: David Kent

Reviewer’s report:

I have only 2 additional questions for the authors:

In the sample size calculation, can they clarify how they derived that they need 8 additional patients per group to account for the additional factor in the analysis of covariance?

If they expect a 30% drop out and enroll 144 patients, there sample will include 100 patients. This is less than the 112 patients needed according their own calculations (48 + 8 per group = 112). Please clarify.

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.