Reviewer’s report

Title: Detailed statistical analysis plan for the Target Temperature Management after Out-of-hospital Cardiac Arrest trial

Version: 1 Date: 3 July 2013

Reviewer: David Seder

Reviewer’s report:

It was unorthodox to make survival, rather than functional outcome, the primary endpoint. This is described adequately in the Discussion section, and the authors have appropriately chosen the more conservative (and therefore powerful) measure. They do not consider in the brief discussion, however, the possibility that survival differs between the groups but functional outcome does not.

An outstanding feature of this trial is the standardization of prognostication and withdrawal of life support practices. It is a modern and inspired approach that removes the most important, and previously unconsidered, variable.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no financial competing interests.

I work with Dr. Nielsen and Friberg in the International Cardiac Arrest Registry.

I work with Dr. Horn in the Neurocritical Care Society.

I do not believe my relationships with these individuals has colored my analysis - the trial is extremely important in the field, and the design is outstanding.