Reviewer's report

Title: Keratinocyte growth factor in Acute lung injury to REDuce pulmonary dysfunction - a randomised placebo controlled trial (KARE)

Version: 1 Date: 3 December 2012

Reviewer: Tobias Freund

Reviewer's report:

Cross et al. report the protocol of a double-blinded randomized placebo controlled trial on the effect of keratinocyte growth factor on acute lung injury. As this condition is common, has a poor prognosis and effective therapeutic agents are not available, the reported study is of high relevance and will hopefully provide new insights into future therapy of acute lung injury in adults. The protocol is well written. IRB approval and external peer review of the funding body has been proven by the submitted documents. Prior to publication of the protocol in Trials I recommend the following discretionary revisions:

a) Background (5/1/1): I recommend to add a referenced number to prove the statement "ALI is a common clinical syndrom"

b) Trial Status (15/1/1): Please insert "hours" after 72 (if correct)

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare no conflict of interest