Reviewer’s report

Title: The EUPHRATES Trial (Evaluating the Use of Polymyxin B Hemoperfusion in a Randomized Controlled Trial of Adults Treated for Endotoxemia and Septic shock): Protocol and Rationale for a Blinded Theragnostic Multi-centered Randomized Controlled Trial

Version: 1  Date: 17 February 2014

Reviewer: Jacques Lacroix

Reviewer’s report:

Manuscript entitled “The EUPHRATES trial (Evaluating the Use of Polymyxine B Hemoperfusion in a Randomized Controlled Trial of Adults Treated for Endotoxinemia and Sepsic shock: protocol and rational for a blinded theragnostic multi-centered randomized controlled trial” by David J Klein et al.

Submitted to the journal “TRIALS”
Manuscript number: 6823553311115336

MAJOR COMPULSARY REVISIONS

METHODOLOGY

• Patients. – How patients will be collected and selected is not clearly described; for example, it is not reported if the cases will be consecutive or not, which is very important in regards to representativeness.

• Intervention and co-interventions. – Compliance is not defined and how will be checked compliance is not described.

MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS (not for publication).

References.

The references must be formatted according to the editorial standards of the journal TRIALS.

• The appropriate abbreviation must be used for the name of each journal (for example, Crit Care Med rather than Critical care medicine in reference 2).

• The name of some journals is not well reported in some references.

  o “Critical care medicine” must become “Crit Care Med”

  o “JAMA: the journal of the American Medical Association” must become “JAMA”.

  o ‘SHOCK” must become “Shock”.

• No comma at the end of a journal name (references 4).

• Delete number of issue, unless there is a supplement (many references).

• Reference 4. – Year of publication is missing.
• Reference 17. – Year of publication is missing.
• Reference 18: Crit Care rather than Critical Care.
• Reference 21: do not use capitalized words in the title.
• Reference 22: “Canadian Critical Care Trials Group” rather than “Canadian Critical Care Trials G”.

DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS.
• None.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
I declare that I have no competing interests.

REVIEWER
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Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.