Reviewer's report

Title: Influence of low dose Aprotinin on thoracic surgical operations: A prospective randomized trial

Version: 1 Date: 22 January 2008

Reviewer: Panagiotis Dedeilias

Reviewer's report:

I was very happy to review this paper regarding the beneficial effect of the use of low dose of aprotinin in thoracic procedures. This benefit has been well documented in cardiac surgery by reducing inflammatory response related to extracorporeal circulation. Besides there has been a significant reduction in postoperative bleeding due to the protection of platelet function. These results have been confirmed in other medical specialties like orthopaedics and general surgery but never before in thoracic surgery.

Therefore this paper is worth publishing. The clinical outcome is statistically significant and the method cost effective although this is not of great value because for the time being the medication has been withdrawn hopefully temporarily.

Did the authors mention any renal complications in their study? Do they also have any experience with the use of Tranexamic acid (TRANSAMINE)? Please clarify whether other hemostatic regimens have been used during the study period.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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