Reviewer’s report

Title: Dose Dependent Effect of Statins on Postoperative Atrial Fibrillation after Cardiac Surgery among Patients Treated with Beta Blockers

Version: 2 Date: 10 September 2009

Reviewer: Mehmet Aktas

Reviewer’s report:

The authors report on the incidence of post cardiac surgery AF in a large cohort of male patients receiving statin therapy in addition to beta-blocker therapy. The incidence of post cardiac surgery AF is reported to be about 30% irrespective of statin therapy. A significant decrease in AF is reported among the subset of patients treated with higher dose statin.

The manuscript is well prepared and written.

Minor discretionary revisions recommended.
1) The word "statin" is sometimes capitalized and at other times it is not. It does not need to be capitalized.
2) No mention of post-op antiarrhythmic drug use, type, frequency etc.
3) Statins have anti-inflammatory properties hence there use in the post cardiac surgery state may not have affected the incidence of AF but could it have decreased the overall burden of AF. Data on what was done to these patients with AF would be interesting, i.e. how many converted spontaneously? How many required DC cardioversion? How many were left in AF?

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 declare that I have no competing interests.