Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of repeated percutaneous coronary intervention on long-term survival after subsequent coronary artery bypass surgery

Version: 1 Date: 20 April 2011

Reviewer: Matthias Thielmann

Reviewer's report:

COMMENTS TO THE AUTHORS:

Thanks for the opportunity to review the paper entitled: ‘IMPACT OF REPEATED PERCUTANEOUS CORONARY INTERVENTION ON LONG-TERM SURVIVAL AFTER SUBSEQUENT CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS SURGERY’ [Manuscript# 9259282025244602] by Genichi Sakaguchi, Takeshi Shimamoto, and Tatsuhiko Komiya from the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery, Kurashiki Central Hospital, City of Kurashiki, Japan.

The present manuscript was carefully read and my comments are as follows: The authors should be congratulated for this ambitious study and nicely written paper, which is worthy of publication. The purpose, methodology and interpretation of the study is sound. The scientific issue about the impact of prior PCI procedures on long-term survival after CABG surgery clearly confirms several recent studies but, moreover, the authors also are adding some new and very important data in this context about the question on long-term survival and outcomes in this important clinical scenario. Therefore, I only have some comments and minor corrections which should be addressed:

MAJOR COMMENTS:

1. Kurashiki patients with multiple prior PCIs before undergoing CABG surgery received a significantly lower number of grafts (3.1 grafts) as compared to patients without prior PCI (3.3 grafts). Why is that? This might be because of the fact that multiple stented coronary arteries do sometimes not allow to construct a graft anastomosis on the distal part of the affected coronary artery? The authors should comment on that in the discussion section.

2. Do the authors have any data on the cardiac causes of death in the long term? If so, the paper would additionally benefit from that information.

3. This reviewer would recommend to also reference the new ESC/EACTS guidelines for adequate revascularisation treatment of CAD in their introduction section.

MINOR COMMENTS:

1. Please type ‘Kaplan-Meier’ instead of ‘Kaplan-Meire’ in the abstract section
and all following sections.
2. Please type ‘Hannan EL’ instead of Hannna EL’ in the reference section
3. Please type ‘Thielmann’ instead of ‘thielmann’ in the reference section

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest 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 that I have no competing interests