Reviewer's report

Title: Surgical Reconstruction of the Left Main Coronary Artery with Patch-Angioplasty

Version: 1 Date: 26 August 2010

Reviewer: Ulrich Stock

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. Abstract: Were the patients with intraoperative normal left main stem symptomatic.
2. Patients and Methods:
   a. The second paragraph (following: During extracorporal…) is redundant as it is described in the Operative technique section.
   b. What was the indication for angiography in the six described patients?
3. Preoperative findings:
   a. What was the stenosis grade exactly (the term critical needs to be specified)
4. Operative technique:
   a. In the discussion section the authors describe division of the pulmonary artery in four cases. This needs to be included in the operative technique section.
5. Operative findings:
   a. There is a typo in this section onlay/only
6. Results:
   a. Was the described patient with ischemia a patient with true ostial stenosis?
7. Discussion:
   a. The unexpected high rate of unconfirmed LMCA stenosis needs to be discussed in more detail. Did the authors analyse these patients again retrospectively? What was the fate of these patients?
   b. The authors should include a statement regarding the actual concept in patients with LMCA stenosis. Do they perform TEE of cardio-CT?

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.