Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of esmolol on the cardiac recovery in cardiopulmonary bypass surgery

Version: 1 Date: 22 July 2011

Reviewer: Xiaoqi Kong

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated the effect of beta blocker on cardiac recovery and rhythm during cardiac surgeries. They used esmolol 1 mg/kg prior to removal of the aortic clamp and recorded and compared the incidence of cardiac automatic re-beat, ventricular fibrillation after reperfusion, the heart rate after steady re-beat, vasoactive drug use during weaning from bypass, the posterior parallel time and total bypass time. In the end they found that esmolol had a positive effect on the cardiac recovery in cardiopulmonary bypass surgeries.

Minor Essential Revisions
1. What is “the posterior parallel time” meaning?
2. In the discussion of the first paragraph, “maintain” should be “maintained”.

Discretionary Revisions
3. It is an interesting study because the authors investigated the effect of beta blocker on cardiac recovery and rhythm during cardiac surgeries, but why the author used esmolol, a short-acting drug in their study?
4. Why were the patients with cardiopericarditis excluded from the study?

Level of interest: An article of importance 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' below.