Reviewer's report

Title: Osmotic and acid-base changes due to acute hyponatremia after cardioplegia by histidine-tryptophane-ketoglutarate - a retrospective study

Version: 1 Date: 16 February 2012

Reviewer: Georg-Christian Funk

Reviewer's report:

In the present study the occurrence of hyponatremia and acid-base disorders after HTK solution for cardioplegia were studied. The issue is relevant for the anesthetist but also for the physician caring for the patient post surgery who is confronted with the hyponatremia. The study design and conduction are sound. However, the study would benefit from a small revision.

Minor comments:

Methods: The 18 patients included in the study without measured serum osmolalities do not add relevant information to the study. I suppose that the remaining patients with measured serum osmolalities would be sufficient to answer the question posed by the authors.

Results: section is too long and could be shortened by removing some information or presenting it in a second table.

Results: response rate to e-mail survey was <50%. I would suggest to remove it from the manuscript.

Discussion: section is too long and should be shortened.

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.