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: 29 February 2012

Reviewer: Aristomenis K Exadaktylos

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

1. The e-mail survey performed by the authors is an interesting idea, however, the respond rate by the physicians was low. I suggest to remove this part from the manuscript or to emphasize its weakness in the limitation section.

2. Are measurements for the amino acid concentration in patients serum available? In case blood/serum of patients was conserved, would it be possible to analyze them for amino acid concentration? If not please add it to your limitations.

3. The discussion section is interesting and I do see the point that a complex issue such as this needs thorough discussion, however, I feel that this section could be shortened for the sake of better readability.

4. The results section could be enriched by adding a table offering information on the patients´ characteristics such as operation time, amount of administered fluids etc.

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'