Reviewer's report

**Title:** Elective Minimally Invasive Coronary Artery Bypass: Shunt or Tournique Occlusion? Assessment of a Protective Role of Perioperative Left Anterior Descending Shunting on Myocardial Damage. A prospective randomized study.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 2 February 2012

**Reviewer:** Nicolas Doll

**Reviewer's report:**

The conclusion is very short and poor. The good advice and the take home message are missing. We know that an occlusion time of more than 30 minutes can induce wall motion abnormalities and arrhythmias. In case of a repeated anastomosis or difficult anatomic circumstances an intracoronary shunt can be very helpful. This should be added to the discussion to improve the manuscript.

This is overall a very well written manuscript with an interesting topic.

**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:**

No