Reviewer's report

Title: 6 percent hydroxyethyl starch 130/0.4 vs. a balanced crystalloid solution in cardiopulmonary bypass priming: A randomized, prospective study

Version: 1 Date: 28 February 2013

Reviewer: Mehmet Oc

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editor,

1. The sentences should not begin with numbers; you have used it in the title and elsewhere in the text.

2. It was stated by the authors in the results and discussion that postoperative hospital length of stay and intensive care unit stay were shorter in HES group, but opposite was stated in conclusion. Probably there is a misstatement in conclusion, it should be corrected. Number of platelet concentrate used was lower in HES group, this should also be stated in conclusion.

3. In results section and table 2, you document that amount of drainage, RBC and FFP used were lower, but the number of cases who underwent re-exploraiion for hemorrhage was higher in HES group. How do you explain this controversy?

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