Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Effects of Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy on Intestinal Mucosal Barrier Function during Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation in a Porcine Model

**Version:** 3  
**Date:** 18 January 2014

**Reviewer:** scott silvestry

**Reviewer’s report:**

This report is a well written paper examining the effect of adding CRRT to ECMO use to attenuate its complications by altering changes at the physiologic level using porcine Intestinal Mucosal as a model.

The report is relevant, clear and the results are well presented with a few exceptions. The remainder of the paper is clear, well presented and shows a significant benefit of restoring mucosal function and structure with the addition of CRRT to ECMO in this model.

Major Compulsory Revisions: None

Minor Essential Revisions

The protocol is not clear as to the treatment of the control and sham animals

"The 24 piglets weight of 27.46±4.45Kg(25-32 Kg) of either sex were randomly allocated to 4 groups: sham group(S group), control group(C group), VV-ECMO group(E group), VV-ECMO combined with CRRT group(EC group)"

I could not tell whether all but ECMO/ECMO CRRT was done on the SHAm but not the controls. This point needs to be revised.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

No conflicts whatsoever.