Reviewer's report

Title: Carotid axillary bypass in a patient with blocked subclavian stents

Version: 1 Date: 20 May 2010

Reviewer: Rajiv K Vohra

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Other

If other, please specify:

The case report discusses the difficulties in tackling a complicated vascular surgical problem arising from failure of stenting.

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: No

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

This is an interesting but an obvious answer to a technically difficult and challenging problem of an occluded stent in the subclavian artery. My only question and criticism to the authors is as to why have they not used retro-clavicular approach for the graft to the axillary artery. Is it due to the local inflammatory reaction and possible dangers of injury to the subclavian vein? If that is the case, this should be briefly discussed.

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.