Reviewer’s report

Title: Effectiveness of combination therapy with nifedipine GITS: a prospective, 12-week observational study (AdADOSE)

Version: 2 Date: 1 December 2014

Reviewer: A Kumar Sinha

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The manuscript by Motaweh et. al., is an extensive study on the usefulness of nifedipine with combination therapy. The manuscript has several major issues that must be resolved before the manuscript could be accepted for publication in BMC Cardiovascular Diseases.

1. Major Compulsory Revision:

Q1: Nifedipine extended release tablets of 30, 60 and 90 mg have been used before and for its anti-hypertensive effect. This anti-hypertensive medication has been used extensively and is routinely used in various countries as anti-hypertensive therapy. That being the issue, what is the novelty of the study that must be explained.

Q 2: The authors claim that the reduction of hypertension reduced the CV events by 60% is controversial. Much lower reduction of CV due to the reduction of hypertension has been reported before.

Q 3: The included portions with “primary hypertension”. The primary hypertension is known to be “essential hypertension” for which no diagnostic test is currently available. How did the investigators decided that these patients had “primary hypertension” which is needed to be described in the Methods section.

Q 4: What were the components in the “combination therapy” with nifedipine. The anti-hypertensive effect of these components needed to be included in the “control” experiment. Some of the non-antihypertensive concomitant medication can be anti-hypertensive that has been reported before by several investigators.

Q 5: The authors have mentioned “combination therapy in regions with high cardiovascular risk burden”. This statement must be supported by at least appropriate reference, as there are many conditions that are known to increase atherosclerosis, the most important cause of cardiovascular risk.

2. Minor Essential Revisions:

The manuscript needs some language corrections.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.