Reviewer’s report

Title: Cardiac valve calcification and risk of cardiovascular or all-cause mortality in dialysis patients: A meta-analysis

Version: 1 Date: 02 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Emmanuel Akintoye

Reviewer’s report:

1. Since you approximated the HR from the data presented in the Varma R et al., this need to be stated in your stat section and the method used for approximation also needs to be cited in the manuscript

2. Decrease in interstudy heterogeneity after subgrouping is not a valid way of testing for sources of heterogeneity. Since your metaregression does not reveal any significant source of heterogeneity, the author should refrain from claiming that they found the source of heterogeneity throughout the manuscript. The authors should just report and discuss the report of the overall meta-analysis result and mention that there was no statistically significant difference between subgroups that were explored.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
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