Reviewer's report

Title: Assessment of Arterial Stiffness Using Pulse Wave Velocity in the First Year Post Kidney Transplant: a Prospective Cohort Study

Version: 2 Date: 9 March 2015

Reviewer: Massimo Torreggiani

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In this paper, Birdwell and Colleagues aim to study the progression of cardiovascular disease by means of arterial stiffness in a population of kidney transplant recipients measuring aortic pulse wave velocity (PWV) one month after transplantation (baseline) and again after 12 months. Their results show that aortic arterial stiffness does not progress in the first year after a kidney transplant but increased age, diabetes and a higher baseline pulse wave velocity identify a group of patient at risk for increased arterial stiffness. Most of the results of this study were already reported by previous investigations. Anyway, this work, although not completely original, is somewhat interesting.

Minor Essential Revisions
- There are a number of studies that deal with PVW and kidney transplant. I would suggest to cite and comment also the following papers:
  o Transplant Proc. 2012 Apr;44(3):684-6
  o Ann Transplant. 2011 Jul-Sep;16(3):30-5
  o Am J Transplant. 2011 Nov;11(11):2414-22
- This is the first study with an entire population under a maintenance immunosuppression therapy with tacrolimus, thus I would stress this in the title of the paper.
- Page 2, line 45: please rephrase.
- Page 3, line 61: please rephrase.
- Please correct format of reference number 9.

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:
I declare that I have no competing interests