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: 22 March 2015

Reviewer: Fabrizio Calliada

Reviewer's report:

1 Is the question posed original, important and well defined?
The aim of the paper is to evaluate the arterial pulsed wave velocity behavior at baseline and one year after transplantation. The argument is new and original and the paper is well written and easily grasped.

2 Are the data sound and well controlled?
Yes

3 Is the interpretation (discussion and conclusion) well balanced and supported by the data?
Yes. The interpretation discusses the relevance of all the results in an unbiased manner.
Conclusions drawn from the study are valid and result directly from the data shown, with reference to other relevant works cited in the references.

4 Are the methods appropriate and well described, and are sufficient details provided to allow others to evaluate and/or replicate the work?
The methods are appropriate, well described and sufficiently detailed to permit to replicate the work by the reader. The statistical analysis, even if complex, seems clear and not need to be assessed specifically by an additional reviewer with statistical expertise.

5 What are the strengths and weaknesses of the methods?
The principal weakness of the research is the number of patients that, even if not exiguous, is limited to 66 patients, probably too few to draw absolute considerations on the effects of the transplantation on PWV and their implications. But the research methods are absolutely sound and the prospective results interesting.

6 Can the writing, organization, tables and figures be improved?
No

7 When revisions are requested.
No revision is requested

8 Are there any ethical or competing interests issues you would like to raise?
No
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests' below