Reviewer's report

Title: Left Ventricular Global Longitudinal Strain Is Associated With Cardiovascular Risk Factors And Arterial Stiffness In Chronic Kidney Disease

Version: 2
Date: 31 December 2014

Reviewer: Debasish Banerjee

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript on “Left Ventricular Global Longitudinal Strain Is Associated with Cardiovascular Risk Factors and Arterial Stiffness in Chronic Kidney Disease” by Dr Krishnswamy et al is well conducted study of echocardiographic abnormalities in patients with CKD. Interestingly obesity was common and was associated with Global Longitudinal Strain as was PWV and uraemic toxins. The longterm implications of abnormal GLS in CKD are unknown.

There are some essential revisions

Background Line 118: Please include anaemia as possible non-traditional risk factor for cardiac changes.

Method: Was there any patient with fasting blood sugar >7 mmol/L but not known to be diabetic

Discussion: Could it be possible that hypertension was not a risk factor because the historical values were not available or the number of patients was few. Endothelial dysfunction relates to abnormal cardiac structure in CKD and needs to be discussed.

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: None