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:** 18 February 2015

**Reviewer:** Michelle Estrella

**Reviewer's report:**

In this study, the associations of CKD risk factors with GLS which is thought to reflect LV function were assessed. In general, the study was well-written and the design/statistical approach seemed appropriate. However, a few clarifications are needed to better interpret the results. First, were all LANDMARK trial participants recruited to partake in this study? In other words, what proportion does that study population of the current study comprise the overall study population. Second, the rationale for the GLS cutoff utilized is unclear. Sensitivity analysis are needed to determine whether the observed associations are robust when perhaps utilizing a different threshold. Thirdly, the "coefficient" noted needs clarification (i.e. does this note the per unit change in GLS?).

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**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.