Reviewer’s report

Title: Risk factors for biochemical recurrence after Robotic Assisted Radical Prostatectomy: a single surgeon experience

Version: 2 Date: 27 January 2015

Reviewer: Jose Karam

Reviewer’s report:

The authors describe a single-institutional experience of a single surgeon in treatment of clinically low-risk localized prostate cancer (more than 99% of patients were cT2).

Major Compulsory Revisions:
- Please use medians and interquartile range for all continuous variables (not mean)
- Please insert the number at risk/number of events under the Kaplan Meier curves
- Was it salvage XRT or adjuvant XRT?
- Did any patient receive hormones?
- What investigations were done when patients had BCR?
- What was the breakdown of PSM per pT stage? please specify in pT3a and pT3b.
- Did the PSM improve in pT2 versus pT3a and pT3b over time?
- How come 73 patients never had a postoperative PSA? Were these patients that had surgery but were never seen again in clinic or received a communication from their referring physician (if applicable) about the PSA status?
- Why were 9 patients that received adjuvant treatment excluded? Why did these patients receive adjuvant treatment? For pT3a/b status? or for positive margins status? or both?
- How was Cox regression done?
- What statistical software was used?
- What was the median (not mean) follow up for the entire cohort and for those who did not have BCR?
- The authors rightfully acknowledged the limitations of the study including short follow-up time, lack of information about size and multifocality of the PSM.

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