Reviewer’s report

Title: Long-Term Outcomes of Two Types of Metal Stent for Chronic Benign Ureteral Strictures

Version: 0 Date: 15 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Filippo Maria Turri

Reviewer's report:

The authors observe the efficacy of metallic stents in benign ureteral strictures.

One major point: indication for metallic stent placement is usually malignant lesions and palliation.

Here is what the instructions of Uventa say:

3. Indications for Use

UVENTA™ Ureteral Stent is intended for maintaining Ureteral luminal patency in Ureteral stricture caused by intrinsic and/or extrinsic malignant stricture.

Please note: Since major indication of UVENTA™ Ureteral Stent is for malignant patients, removal procedure is NOT post-stent indication. If removal is strongly required due to complications and other reasons, make sure if stent can be safely removed before removal process.

Why did the author placed this kind of stents in benign lesions which should be managed with reconstructive surgery, especially in cases of short stenosis? Please specify better the length and site of shorter stenosis (group where stenosis is <10cm). Why UPJ stenosis was not treated with pieloplasty and pelvic stenosis with reimplantation? Being benign lesions, the patients will live a long life afterwards, so they can not be left with a stent in situ for years if surgical treatment is possible.

Beside this point that needs to be clearly addressed and justified, well conducted study.

Please confirm that you have included your review in the ‘Comments to Author’ box?

As a minimum standard, please include a few sentences that outline what you think are the authors’ hypothesis/objectives, their main results, and the conclusions drawn. Your report should constructively instruct authors on how they can strengthen their paper to the point where it may be acceptable for publication, or provide detailed reasons as to why the manuscript does not fulfill our criteria for consideration. Please supply appropriate evidence using examples from the manuscript to substantiate your comments. Please break your comments into two bulleted or numbered sections: major and minor comments.

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Yes

**Are the methods appropriate and well described to allow independent reproduction of experiments?**

Please state in the ‘Comments to Authors’ box below what you think are the strengths and weaknesses of the methods (study design, data collection, and data analysis), and what is required, if anything, to improve the quality of reporting.

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- Are the statistical test(s) used in this study appropriate and well described?
- Is the exact sample size (n) reported for each experimental group/condition (as a number, not a range)?
- Are the description of any error bars and probability values appropriate?
- Are all error bars defined in the corresponding figure legends?
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