Reviewer’s report

Title: Reduction of ureteral stent encrustation by modulating the urine pH and inhibiting the crystal film with a new oral composition: a multicenter, placebo controlled, double blind, randomized clinical trial

Version: 0 Date: 17 Feb 2020

Reviewer: Ahmed EL-Nahas

Reviewer's report:

In this interesting multicenter placebo controlled double blinded RCT, the authors found that oral intake of the combination of L-Methionine (urinary acidifier) and Phytin (crystallization inhibitor) had a significant effect in decreasing double-J ureteral stent encrustation. The authors are to be commended for the conception, study design, methods and analysis of the data.

Comments:

1. The paragraph in page in page 4 that starts from line 20 to line 26 is the conclusion of the study and should not be mentioned in the introduction.

2. The rationale of choosing 3 to 8 weeks indwelling period as an inclusion criterion has to be justified. The authors mentioned in the study limitations that 8 weeks may be a short period for evaluation of stent encrustations, but I prefer to add a justification of this selection in the introduction or methods section.

3. There are many tables and each one has too many data. This is confusing to the reader and lead to loosing his interest to read all these data. I think that it will be better if the authors can decrease the data in some tables.

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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

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- 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?
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- Has a sample size calculation been included, or a description and rationale about how sample sizes were chosen?

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**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
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Yes

**Quality of written English**
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Yes: The authors are presenting a new oral medication for decreasing ureteral stent encrustation.

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