Reviewer’s report

Title: CARDIOVASCULAR RISK REDUCTION OVER TIME IN PATIENTS WITH DIABETES OR PRE-DIABETES UNDERGOING BARIATRIC SURGERY: DATA FROM A SINGLE-CENTER RETROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

Version: 1 Date: 29 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Ilaria Cavallari

Reviewer’s report:

Rubio-Almanza et al. aimed to investigate the cardiovascular risk profile of 105 diabetic and pre-diabetic patients up to 60 months after bariatric surgery. The authors concluded that there was a significant reduction of cardiovascular risk across the entire population at 12 months that persisted until 60 months of follow-up.

The main comment is about the evaluation of cardiovascular risk that was performed using the Framingham risk score. Given the fact that diabetes is included in the score, I assume that the cardiovascular risk reduction is driven by the resolution of diabetes. Is this the case? Please, explain in detail how you manage diabetes in the evaluation of CVD risk.

I have few additional comments:

1) I suggest to change the title of the article as follows: "Cardiovascular risk reduction over time in patients with diabetes or pre-diabetes undergoing bariatric surgery: data from a single-center retrospective observational study".

2) In the discussion, could you please mention the results of the CAMELLIA TIMI trial just published in the NEJM? It is important to underline that there are also other options for the treatment of obesity that have shown to be safe. CAMELLIA was the first trial in this setting and there was no signal for cardiovascular harm with lorcaserin.

3) Please, add the following reference regarding the role of body circumferences for the cardiovascular risk stratification in overweight-obese subjects: Maddaloni E. et al. Am J Cardiol 2016.

4) What about outcomes after surgery? Please, report these data (mortality, in-hospital and long-term complications).

5) Do you think that these results could apply also to other types of bariatric surgery? Please, comment.

6) Please, avoid the use of the word "diabetic" as recommended by ADA.
7) I don't understand Figure 1. Please, clarify adding a couple of sentences in the legend to guide the reader. On the X-axis, is that the baseline glucose level? Specify what we have in the y-axis.

8) Add p values in figures 2 and 3.

9) Please, soften the conclusion regarding BMI above 35 as a criterion for metabolic surgery in pre-diabetes. Much more data are needed especially in light of new available promising drugs for the treatment of obesity.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal