Reviewer’s report

Title: Gender and thrombolysis therapy in stroke patients with incidence dyslipidemia

Version: 1 Date: 03 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Marie Hélène Bouvier-Colle

Reviewer’s report:

In this paper the question the authors wanted to clarify is how dyslipidemia may interfere with the usual risk factors for exclusion from the thrombolysis therapy, knowing that women are more often exluded than men.

The 3 multifactorial analyses show that women are more excluded from the treatment than men even though carotid artery stenosis and previous stroke are important risk factors for both. On the other hand, NIH stroke scale is for both a risk factor for inclusion to the thrombolysis therapy.

Two other factors differentiate men and women for inclusion, one is clinical, antiplatelet medication for men and antihypertensive medication for women, and last but not least age for women.

I see an important weakness in the demonstration. The studied population has been selected retrospectively; so we cannot ignored that selection bias had been present probably in the acute ischemic stoke population and that this selection bias was associated with gender.

The scientific approach would be improved by two aspects; firstly, prospective selection of patients and not a retrospective study in a single institution, and secondly, analysis by stratified population of men and women by age. I want to say to analyse the different risk factors including sex among the stroke patients with dyslipidemia being at the same age.

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

No

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Unable to assess

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