Reviewer's report

Title: The Prognostic Value of Dobutamine Stress Echocardiography Amongst British Indian Asian and Afro-Caribbean Patients: A Comparison with European White Patients.

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Reviewer: Patrizio Lancellotti

Reviewer's report:

The present study examined the prognostic importance of dobutamine stress echocardiography (DES) in three ethnic groups in the UK. DSE was performed on 5329 consecutive patients (2676 Indian Asian, 2219 European white and 434 Afro-Caribbean). Among the three ethnic groups, ischemia on DSE was associated with 2 to 2.5 times the risk of non-fatal cardiac events and 1.2 to 1.4 times the risk of all-cause mortality. Peak wall motion score index was the strongest independent predictor of non-fatal cardiac events and all-cause mortality in all groups. So, the authors concluded that no major differences among racial and ethnic groups in the predictive value of DSE were detected.

The paper is well written and provides interesting data, though DSE is known to stratify the risk of patients. It would be of interest to know if the territory of ischemia affected the outcome similarly in the 3 groups. Also were these patients living for long in UK? It would also be interesting to know the pre-test probability of CAD in each group. Also could the authors more info on the influence of pre-treatment on DSE results.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

None