Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Impact of age on early outcome after coronary bypass graft surgery using minimized versus conventional extracorporeal circulation

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 6 May 2014

**Reviewer:** Aron Frederik Popov

**Reviewer’s report:**

I read with great interest the manuscript where the authors could demonstrate that the impact of age on early outcome after coronary bypass graft surgery using minimized versus conventional extracorporeal circulation is significantly improved.

That manuscript is well written and focuses on a hot topic. Because the MECC is, as already mentioned in the manuscript, a good agreement to maintain the benefits of beating heart surgery and minimize the disadvantages of on-pump revascularization.

Despite the retrospective nature of the study the results are interesting. However some minor essential revision should be considered before publication.

1. In the MECC group the numbers of grafts are higher and the “aortic cross clamp” is lower. The authors should leave a statement about that.

2. Please clarify in the background section what is the definition of “complete revascularization” and why it was performed even in the elderly if you consider reference 20. Is this an institutional protocol?

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests’