Reviewer's report

Title: Predictors and prevention of flow insufficiency due to limited flow demand

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Reviewer: Yoshitsugu Nakamura

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting study, addressing unresolved issue regarding coronary artery bypass grafting. The authors described that insufficient flow was a significant risk factor of early graft failure and, subsequently, the distal lesion and right coronary artery and circumflex regions were the significant predictors of insufficient flow. I agree with the comment; for the distal lesion, more severe stenosis is necessary to achieve long-term graft patency, as compared with the proximal lesion. These findings may be known by most of cardiac surgeons, but have not been truly proved, yet. Even improvement in evaluation of functional ischemia, such as fractional flow reserve, these are important in surgical revascularization. The authors challenged these critical issues.

What is your strategy to insufficient flow grafts during operation? The reasons of insufficient flow may be flow competition, technical error or graft problem. What about the revision rate in this series?

This paper should be published after minor essential revisions.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests' below.