Reviewer's report

**Title:** Variation of perioperative plasma mitochondrial DNA correlate with peak inflammatory cytokines caused by cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 5 May 2015

**Reviewer:** Gianni Angelini

**Reviewer's report:**

Thank you for asking me to review this paper which is looking at mitochondrial DNA correlation with inflammation response after CPB in patients undergoing coronary artery bypass surgery.

The study is interesting and it reports a fairly sizeable number of patients. The information can add some evidence to what is already known on the inflammatory response following cardiopulmonary bypass. My main concern is mostly the English which I think could do with some improvement. A few other things are, for example, the patient characteristics which is pretty scanty in table 1 - the core baseline information. Baseline information is patient characteristics and then you can have perhaps postoperative characteristics.

All in all, it is a reasonable study. It can add some information to the literature and on balance with a little bit of English improvement it should be accepted for publication.

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

none