Reviewer’s report

Title: Oxygen Carrying Capacity of salvaged blood in patients undergoing off-pump coronary artery bypass grafting surgery: a prospective observational study

Version: 1 Date: 3 April 2015

Reviewer: Harikrishna Doshi

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory revision:
Authors must be commended on the article which clearly demonstrates an advantage of cell salvage over stored blood.

The authors must use tables for presenting their results on page 4 and beginning of page 5. This is in relation to their paragraphs on changes of salvaged RBCs during storage and change in P50 and 2,3 DPG level. This I believe, will make their report more legible and less confusing.

The authors have mentioned very high range of values for example the level of 2,3 DPG at 4 hours in salvaged blood shows a value of 15.17 +/- 11.61 and similar higher values have been quoted for all salvaged blood samples for 2,3 DPG. Can they clarify as to how these can remain valid? One of the explanation is the small sample size and if so they should clarify that in the report which leaves door open for future larger case studies to draw conclusions.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

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

Declaration of competing interests:
No competing interests.