Reviewer’s report

Title: Abnormal elevation of myocardial necrosis biomarkers after coronary artery bypass grafting without established myocardial infarction assessed by cardiac magnetic resonance

Version: 0 Date: 16 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Luca Testa

Reviewer's report:

This study aimed to assess the diagnostic performance of TNI and CK-MB in the setting of ONCAB, by means of LE-CMR.

The manuscript is easy to read, however, some criticisms are needed:

Minor:

- I would suggest to add more details about the ECG pre and post.

- I would also add more information regarding the renal status pre and post that is a major factor determining the TNI levels

Major:

- I would also suggest to "fine tune" the conclusions: both TNI and CK-MB had a poor performance in predicting a CMR detectable MI, not an MI. In other words, this manuscript assumes that CK-MB and TNI showed something that did not exist because the CMR did not confirm: this is wrong. CK-MB and TnI, particularly the TnI, showed that and MI did happen, however, the CMR could not show it. Thus, I would not be so clear cut in stating that we need different cut-offs or something. The results of this manuscript support the idea that a CMR detectable "post ONCAB" MI is poorly correlated with the levels of CK and TnI.

The statement that the CMR could be included in the assessment of post ONCAB MI is strongly misleading.

- The concept of "diffuse" myocardial damage should be mentioned and discuss, as it is a clear limitation of the CMR analysis.
Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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