Reviewer’s report

Title: High shear stress suppresses proliferation and migration but promotes apoptosis of endothelial cells co-cultured with vascular smooth muscle cells via down-regulating MAPK pathway

Version: 1 Date: 23 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Jacob Bergsland

Reviewer's report:

I am sorry to say but in my opinion this article is not publishable in a surgical journal in its present form. There continue to be far too many details of the methods applied. Although this is probably of interest to researchers working in this particular area, I do not think that surgeons will be inclined to read so much text since much of the text is unlikely to be understand by the journal's readers.

On the other side the topic itself is of great interest for surgeons. Saphenous vein graft disease is an extremely serious problem in CABG surgery, with 50% of grafts becoming obstructed over 5-10 years. Therefore the article, if properly revised, is of great interest to surgeons.

I think it is necessary to drastically cut the size of the manuscript, describe the methods in more general terms. The detailed description of the methods could be placed in the online files thereby being available for those who may want more details or have interest in perform similar experiments.

I find that the language is not yet satisfactory and that are many repetitions. Also I find the disposition of the article somewhat disorganized.

In conclusion I think the authors may want to discuss the paper with surgical collaborators and do a thorough revision.

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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited
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