Reviewer's report

Title: Comparison of 6% Hydroxyethyl Starch and 5% Albumin for Volume Replacement Therapy in Patients Undergoing Cystectomy (CHART): study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

Version: Date: 28 May 2015

Reviewer: Amelie Yavchitz

Reviewer's report:

1. Will the study design adequately test the hypothesis?
   Yes

2. Are sufficient details provided to allow replication of the work or comparison with related analyses: if not, what is missing?
   No
   There is no information about 1) the anesthesia management 2) The Intra-operative care including all different components of the treatment procedure 3) The care giver – Who is the person administering the treatment? 4) Any co-interventions permitted or restricted? For example some drugs used for post operative pain management can also lead to kidney diseases as NSAID And 5) No information about the Postoperative care

3. Is the planned statistical analysis appropriate?
   I am not expert enough

4. Do the figures appear to be genuine, i.e. without evidence of manipulation?
   No

5. Is the writing acceptable?
   Yes

Major Compulsory Revisions

Background:
In this section authors did not justify enough their choice to use HES as comparator instead of a crystalloid solution.
This choice is very questionable
The use of colloid is controversial in ICU as in peri-operative management.
Authors say that there is conflicting evidence about the relative safety on HES. In my opinion, the evidence is no more conflicting.
Many studies have demonstrated that HES increase the risk of acute renal failure[1–4] in ICU and in the peri operative management. If the experimental treatment –albumin- is compared to a non optimal treatment for safety, the results of the study could not be taken into consideration.

Trial status:
The study is planned to be completed in March 2015.
Why the protocol was not submitted earlier?

Minor Essential Revisions:
In the paragraph 8 of the background avoid words “very likely” that are not adequate in a scientific paper.

Why the authors did not consider the possibility of a blinded study design?

REFERENCES

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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