Reviewer’s report

Title: Self-expanding nitinol stents of high vs. low chronic outward force in de-novo femoropopliteal occlusive arterial lesions (BIOFLEX-COF trial): study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

Version: 0 Date: 13 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Johannes Lammer

Reviewer’s report:

This is a RCT of high scientific and clinical interest for those who do endovascular treatment of PAD. The manuscript is well written. Some information to understand the study is missing as described below.

Title:

OK

Abstract:

Companies of the 2 different stents should be mentioned

Introduction:

OK

Methods:

The mechanical characteristics of the 2 different stents (COF, hoop stress, struts diameter etc.) should be described in more detail to understand, why these 2 stents were selected.

The method of CTA should be described in detail. How do you reduce metal blooming artifacts?

Calculation of patient number is missing. Why 80 patients? What is the expected difference between 2 arms at primary endpoint, estimated dropouts?

Discussion:

It should include the difference of clinical results between nitinol stents with high COF such as Lifestent and low COF such as Pulsar stent or Supera stent.
Figures and Table:

OK

References:

OK

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

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Quality of written English
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