Reviewer’s report

Title: FimAsartaN proTeinuriA SusTaIned reduCtion in comparison with losartan in diabetic chronic kidney disease (FANTASTIC) : study protocol for randomized controlled trial

Version: 0 Date: 20 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Gowrie Balasubramaniam

Reviewer’s report:

1) Introductory paragraph needs revision to be read more easily; "Approximately" used twice in first line, consider joining sentences. "both" used in line 2 and 3, consider deleting from line 3.

2) Line 33, full stop after CKD [6-8]

3) Line 21, remove "; however"

4) Line 25, remove "Therefore"

5) Explain why Lorsartan was chosen as comparator

6) This study looks at two tenants, one comparing Lorsartan vs. Fimasartan, and then strict vs. standard BP control. Ideally one clear aim is preferable, I am unsure of both aims have the required statistical work-up, I cannot see any such work for the "second part" of the study comparing strict vs. standard BP control in the statistics section.

7) Please give more information on study setting, recruitment for primary care / secondary care centres / specialist centres etc. Patients identified through electronic records or at clinic visits etc.

8) Please clarify that the reason the subjects were required to measure their own BP (which can be unreliable) as opposed to monitoring at visits, was this purely from a safety aspect?

9) More information is required on the concealment mechanism and implementation.

10) More information on data collection methods, use of eCRF etc.

11) More information on data management and storage.

12) Is there a data safety monitoring committee, give rationale for not having one if not.

13) This is essentially a protocol publication and more detail has to be given to the different aspects from the SPIRIT checklist, this is the primary role of this publication to reinforce the integrity of the study.

14) There are too many secondary end-points, can these be rationalised?
15) The figure showing the flow of the study is well laid out.

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Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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