Reviewer's report

Title: Protocol and baseline data for a Prospective open-label explorative randomized single centre comparative study to determine the effects of various intravenous iron preparations on markers of oxidative stress and kidney injury in chronic kidney disease (CKD). (IRON-CKD)

Version: 0 Date: 19 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Tarek Abdelaziz

Reviewer's report:

The Authors of the IRON-CKD study have endorsed the protocol in a clear and interesting presentation.

I have the following minor suggestions

1) In the Introduction section page 6, the paragraph "When IV Iron is administrated it passes to the reticulo-endothelial system (RES). The Iron complex with either dextran or sucrose splits........". This paragraph does not mention anything about the pathophysiological effect of Isomaltoside. Actually nowhere in the introduction I could find any explanation of its role in accelerating oxidative inflammation. Please explain as this is an important part of the rationale of the study.

2) Please explain if patient were categorized according to etiology of CKD prior to randomization, as patients with diabetic nephropathy have been found to have higher levels of NGAL. If not, then how this bias will be addressed in the analysis?

3) Please provide SPIRIT checklist as a supplementary file.

4) Please describe clearly the primary and secondary outcomes of the study. The title of the study implies that the level of the biomarkers would be the primary outcome.

5) Please state clearly in the title that this is a study protocol.

6) Please explain whether the markers of inflammation will be measured as a single measurement or serially.

7) The results section is not necessarily a part of the study protocol. Please consider trimming down this section.
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Is it essential that this manuscript is seen by an expert statistician? If so, please give your reasons in your report.

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