Reviewer’s report

Title: Reendothelialisation after Synergy stent and Absorb bioresorbable vascular scaffold implantation in acute myocardial infarction: COVER-AMI study

Version: 1 Date: 03 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Richard Holubkov

Reviewer’s report:

This is a nicely written paper and quite responsive to the previous reviewers (please be aware that I am a new reviewer, who did not participate in the formal reviews of the previous version of your manuscript).

I have several minor requests for revision:

1) as this is considered to be a pilot randomized trial, I would ask you to make this clear at the beginning of the manuscript, for example specifying that this is a pilot trial both in the Abstract and in the Background.

2) I understand that sample size calculations were not performed, but could you describe briefly in the manuscript (Methods) how the sample size of 20 was determined? For example (looking at the protocol), was this based on the volume of patients expected at your institution over a 6-month period?

3) Assuming the randomization was Web-based as specified in the protocol, I would specify this in the methods.

4) If 22 patients were indeed randomized and 20 ultimately analyzed, this should be stated and explained. Were the 2 patients excluded before assessment of follow-up outcomes? Was this exclusion in accordance with the protocol?

5) I realize you used a mixture of t-tests and Mann-Whitney, but for key comparisons, it would be informative to know which tests were used for key comparisons of continuous outcomes. You could specify this in the relevant tables if you so choose, or in the text for key comparisons listed.

6) One question for your statistician, in the newly added Table 5 analysis, is there a strong within-stent or within-patient correlation that needs to be accounted for? For example, did the majority of uncovered struts occur in a single patient/stent in each group? If this is an issue, this should be accounted for in the analysis, for example by using Generalized Estimating Equations (GEEs) to compare proportions accounting for within-stent correlation of outcomes.

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