Reviewer's report

Title: Single-center experience with levosimendan in children undergoing cardiac surgery and in children with decompensated heart failure

Version: 1 Date: 15 June 2011

Reviewer: giovanni Landoni

Reviewer's report:

This is the largest experience ever with the use of levosimendan in children. The study was conducted in a referral hospital.

MAJOR COMMENTS
I would recommend caution in the use of boluses-
I would change the title in to “Physicians’ perceptions on….

MINOR COMMENTS

ABSTRACT
--Age range arrives to 21.1 y. there should be a mistake. Please consider writing median (interquartile)
--72% cardiac surgery, 14% to children with cardiomiopathy and 14% to children with heart failure

RESULTS
This sentence is not clear
Eleven out of 18 physicians (61.1%) thought that levosimendan treatment had saved the lives of some children when the other treatments had failed. Only one the respondents did not recall any such cases.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
Landoni Giovanni received modest speaker fees from Orion