Reviewer's report

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

**Version:** 4  **Date:** 30 August 2011

**Reviewer:** Shahzad Raja

**Reviewer's report:**

Major compulsory revision
The authors fail to provide pre- and post-levosimendan values of haemodynamic variables; there is lack of information regarding the other vasoactive drugs and imoact of levosimendan on discontinuation of these vasoactive drugs as well as lack of specific risk stratification classification for patients in cardiac failure. These must be acknowledged as limitations of the study.

**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:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'.