Reviewer's report

**Title:** Adherence to the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) Guidelines for Chronic Heart Failure - A national survey of the Cardiologists in Pakistan

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 26 February 2011

**Reviewer:** Georg Ertl

**Reviewer's report:**

**Background:**

**Minor:**
4th line: “Comorbits” should be comorbidities
2nd para: scip “Of all cardiovascular diseases,” heart failure is not a disease.
Last para: Preferably put forward a hypothesis included >80% patients with cardiac diseases, regardless of post graduate training.

**Major:**
The results largely depend on the definition of “cardiologist”.
Etiology of heart failure in Pakistan vs. Europe? Health care systems are quite different. Are the European Guidelines adequate for the Pakistan scenario?
The evaluation process of the test cardiologists remains unclear. Exactly define in what respect the cardiologists were non-compliant to guidelines (drugs, doses?).
How were the cases chosen? Are they representative for Pakistan or for what?
Why only 3 cases?
Discussion is wordy and in large parts redundant and can be shortened by at least 30%.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests