Author's response to reviews

Title: Preoperative Risk Factor Analysis of Postoperative Stroke after Cox-Maze Procedure with Mitral Valve Repair

Authors:

Jun Seok Kim (drkimjs@kuh.ac.kr)
Song Am Lee (20040032@kuh.ac.kr)
Jae Bum Park (bumyee@hanmail.net)
Hyun Keun Chee (cheehk@kuh.ac.kr)
Jin Woo Chung (jwchungcs@gmail.com)

Version: 2 Date: 12 March 2014

Author's response to reviews:

## Reviewer: Rafael Sadaba

1.- Table 3 and figure 2 show the same data. Nevertheless, there is no mention of figure 2 in the text, and therefore it should be removed.

: Most of all, we sincerely appreciated your comments and advices. We deleted “figure 2” according to the reviewer’s opinion, because Table 3 and figure 2 actually displayed duplicated contents.

: 2.- In the discussion section, the statement “It has been known that the Cox Maze IV procedure is technically easier and takes less surgical time than the Cox Maze III procedure while it provides results similar to that of the Cox Maze III Procedure” is supported by reference 21. The cited study was not a comparison of the Cox Maze III and IV procedures and therefore I consider either the statement or the reference inadequate.

: We agree that “reference 21” is not a journal focusing on the comparison of the Cox Maze III and IV procedure. To get rid of leaving misunderstanding we decided to exclude the statement “It has been known that the Cox Maze IV procedure is technically easier ~ that of the Cox Maze III procedure”

3. We mostly revised and corrected again in compliance with BMC’s regulations and reviewer’s advices.
## Reviewer: Ameeta Yaksh.

Minor essential Revisions

The minor essential revisions are noted in the PDF attached with this review. Furthermore, sentences might be directer and shorter. The word "owing" is used often. If possible use synonyms to variate your text.

Very interesting article.

We changed the phrase “owing to” into other various synonyms to avoid awkward organization of sentence. We sincerely appreciated your comments and advices.