Reviewer's report

Title: Utility of NT-proBNP as a rule-out test for left ventricular dysfunction in very old people with limiting dyspnoea: the Newcastle 85+ Study

Version: 3
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Reviewer: Abdallah Al-Mohammad

Reviewer's report:

The authors should be congratulated for executing and excellent study to look at the use of NP in the detection of LVSD amongst the elderly (85+ years).

In the key words, they should alter 80 years and over to become 85 years and over.

The authors have defined well the question posed. They used and described well the methods used. Despite relatively small cohort, the data are sound. They wrote a good report. This was associated with excellent balanced review of the current knowledge throughout the article including the conclusions.

The authors acknowledged the limitations of the breast.

The authors were careful to explore the work done by others in the same field.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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 in relation to this particular manuscript.