Reviewer's report

Title: Cardiac involvement in Beagle-based canine X-linked muscular dystrophy in Japan (CXMDJ): electrocardiographic, echocardiographic, and morphologic studies

Version: 4  Date: 6 November 2006

Reviewer: Luca Ferasin

Reviewer's report:

General
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I would like to thank the Authors for taking the time to review their manuscript for the second time.

The Authors have satisfactorily addressed my previous comments and made the appropriate changes.

I believe that the manuscript is now acceptable for publication.
However, I would like to invite the Authors to answer two questions related to their manuscript and, if possible, explain their comments in the manuscript.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
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1- Did you calculate the M-mode parameters based on a single measurement or multiple measurements (e.g. 3 or 5 consecutive heart cycles).

2- If the new reference reports a normal FS (%) in Beagles as 40 +/- 10 (Mean +/-SD), then the normal range (95% confidence interval) would be 20-60 (Mean +/- 2SD). Would the Authors be prepared to change their statement based on this comment?

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What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'