Author's response to reviews

Title: A compare between myocardial topical negative pressure levels of -25 and -50 mmHg in a porcine model

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Respond to the Reviewer

We are very thankful to the reviewer for his constructive criticism and we have tried to change the manuscript and make comments to his concerns:

Reviewer 3; Douglas Curran-Everett:

The experimental protocol in the method section has been rewritten. We hope that you now will find it more suitable. Below you can see the rewritten part.

Experimental protocol

The microvascular blood flow was measured continuously by the laser Doppler filament probes. Recordings were made in normal myocardium before and after negative pressures of -25 or -50 mmHg were applied. In animal 1, 3, and 5 the negative pressure of -25 mmHg was applied before the negative pressure of -50 mmHg was applied. The baseline was restored between the two settings. In animal 2, 4, and 6 the negative pressure of -50 mmHg was applied before the negative pressure of -25 mmHg was applied. The baseline was restored between the two settings.

The LAD was then occluded for 20 minutes with an elastic vessel loop. Microvascular blood flow was measured before, and after 20 minutes of occlusion. Recordings were also made in ischemic myocardium, before and after negative pressures of -25 or -50 mmHg were applied. In animal 1, 3, and 5 the negative pressure of -25 mmHg was applied before the negative pressure of -50 mmHg was applied. The baseline was restored between the two settings. In animal 2, 4, and 6 the negative pressure of -50 mmHg was applied before the negative pressure of -25 mmHg was applied. The baseline was restored between the two settings.