Reviewer's report

Title: Age and gender specific normal values of left ventricular mass, volume and function for gradient echo magnetic resonance imaging: a cross sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 31 July 2008

Reviewer: Oronzo Catalano

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: none

Minor Essential Revisions: none

Discretionary Revisions

1) I am concerned about the high interobserver variability of EF estimation (10-12% of EF), also showed by the low correlation between the measures of the two observers (R2 = 0.12). Variability data, as now reported (p.9, lines 18-23), are not easily comprehensible. A table would help. Intraobserver variability data should be given too.

2) P. 9, line 11: the word “range” seems to be a refuse; I imagine it should be eliminated.

Level of interest: An article of importance 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.