Reviewer’s report

Title: Decrease in shunt volume in patients with cryptogenic stroke and patent foramen ovale

Version: 1 Date: 17 July 2010

Reviewer: J David Spence

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revision

You seem to imply that the disappearance of a previously detected shunt is a good thing, as it may reduce the risk of future embolization. However, one mechanism by which a PFO may be occluded is by thrombus; thus a false negative bubble study may give false reassurance, as once the thrombus has dissolved or embolized, the shunt will re-open.


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.