Reviewer's report

**Title:** Exhaled and arterial levels of Endothelin-1 are increased and correlate to pulmonary systolic pressure in COPD with pulmonary hypertension. An imbalanced output in the breath between Endothelin-1 and Nitric Oxide.

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 24 June 2008

**Reviewer:** Fanny WS Ko

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors have satisfactory answered by most of the queries.

For the major revisions, point number 5, the authors have made the reply “The reproducibility of repeated ET-1 measurements was assessed by the Bland and Altman method in six patients (mean difference 0.62, SD 1.214, data not shown).” It is important to show the data (at least to add a sentence to the text in the result section). In addition, please also comment on whether you consider the assay was having good reproducibility. The reproducibility of the test has great implication on how one interpret the data when they read the manuscript.

Some minor points:

1. The title: “correlate” should be change to “correlated”
2. Page 12, second paragraph
   --- line 1: “This study has different limitations, likely due to methodological assays.” I suggested it to be changed to “This study had several limitations.”
   --- line 2: Suggest to change to “consisted of healthy non-smokers and not ex smokers with no airflow limitations.…”
   --- line 3: Suggest to change to “however, as our COPD….., we considered that.…
   --- line 6: Suggest to change to “which did not correspond to the gold standard of right heart catherization. Among our subjects, 4 patients had previous right heart catherization and the results were comparable to the echocardiography Doppler assessment.”

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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.