Reviewer's report

Title: Reversible atrial fibrillation secondary to a mega-oesophagus: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 28 November 2006

Reviewer: Samuel Levy

Reviewer's report:

General
This is an interesting case report of particular interest to clinicians interested in AF

Introduction
The chance of developing AF is overestimated or the authors should provide a reference. The accepted incidence of AF in the general population over 65 year of age is about 5%

Discussion
The authors attribute AF to the valsalva manoeuvre leading to increased vagal tone a possible cause of the so-called vagal AF occurring during sleep or after meals and to the possible pressure of the oesophagus on the atria. Both explanations seem to us plausible.
The proximity of the oesophagus with the left atria is evidenced by the rare but severe complication of left atrial radiofrequency ablation which deserves to be mentioned in this report.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)