Reviewer's report

Title: Contrast enhanced transesophageal echocardiography in patients with atrial fibrillation referred to electrical cardioversion improves atrial thrombus detection and may reduce associated thrombembolic events

Version: 1 Date: 20 September 2012

Reviewer: Rosa Sicari

Reviewer's report:

Authors try to demonstrate that adding contrast agent to TEE before electrical cardioversion yields a higher diagnostic accuracy and, on its turn, it reduces the occurrence of embolic events in the follow-up. The study may be of interest; however there are a few issues that authors should address:

1. It is not clear how the two groups were formed. Please clarify.
2. A selection bias may have been introduced if there is not a standardized protocol for the use of contrast agents. Please address.
3. Safety and costs concerns should be discussed.

Minor

Please proofread the manuscript. There are several typos throughout the manuscript
Please follow the rules of the journal for references and citations

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests