Author's response to reviews

Title: Elevated level of plasma Endothelin-1 in patients with atrial septal defect.

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Author's response to reviews: see over
We are grateful for the peer review report on our submission. We would be grateful if you could again consider our manuscript entitled: ‘Elevated level of plasma Endothelin-1 in patients with atrial septal defect.’ (Komar M et al), for publication in the *Cardiovascular Ultrasound*.

We are submitting our revised manuscript with the hope that it will be accepted.

Regarding Reviewer 1.

All reviewer’s suggestions have been applied in the text:

1. Analysis of results and discussion was modified in order to suggest a possible role of ET-1 for the therapeutic choices:
   - We proposed a medical follow-up (versus closure) in pts with small ASDs and low ET-1 levels.
   - We discussed whether ET-1 dosage could be considered in different populations with congenital heart disease, where the decision or the timing for intervention is still under debate.
   - In our patients higher ET-1 levels before closure don’t predict higher pulmonary artery pressure/resistances after closure - we have added this information to the manuscript.
Regarding Reviewer 2.

All reviewer’s corrections have been applied in the text:

1. In response to the review more clinical information’s regarding transcatheter closure of ASD is added.

2. Patients underwent percutaneous closure of ASD only with an Amplatzer device - this sentence is added.

3. We investigated 80 consecutive patients 55 women (68.75%) and 25 men (31.25%), who underwent percutaneous closure of ASD with an Amplatzer device in the Department of Hemodynamics and Angiography, Institute of Cardiology, Jagiellonian University Medical College – this information is specified.

We believe, these findings would be of interest to your Readers. The paper is not considered for publication elsewhere. We would be grateful if you could again consider our manuscript for publication.

Yours sincerely, Monika Komar, MD PhD