Reviewer’s report

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

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Reviewer: Magdalena Kostkiewicz

Reviewer’s report:

Present paper tackles a very interesting topic of the usefulness of measuring ET-1 levels for the diagnosis and selection of candidates for ASD closure. The study aimed to assess the level of plasma Endothelin-1 (Et-1) in patients before and after transcatheter closure of atrial septal defect.

In light of divergent opinions regarding ASD correction in all patients irrespective of age and clinical symptoms it appears necessary to look for novel diagnostic and prognostic indicators that may become useful for proper selection of candidates for ASD closure.

The paper is well written and conclusions are supported by study results.

The submitted paper describe a large cohort of patients, what is undoubted advantage of the manuscript.

Minor comments/reviewer questions:

1. More clinical information’s regarding transcatheter closure of ASD could be interesting for the readers (in introduction and discussion).
2. Patients underwent percutaneous closure of ASD - whether patients had treatment only with an Amplatzer device or other devices were also used?
3. Are these patients were consecutive patients or selected patients based on exclusion / inclusion criteria?

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