Reviewer's report

Title: Echogenic perfluorohexane-loaded macrophages adhere in vivo to activated vascular endothelium in mice

Version: 2 Date: 20 November 2014

Reviewer: Francesco Stea

Reviewer's report:

This paper presents a very interesting proof of concept for future applications. However, it has little to do with ultrasound, as the US part is marginal, it deals with echo from the blood only, and does not present numerical data. This is not a problem in itself, but do the authors believe that “Cardiovascular Ultrasound” is the right journal for the present paper?

MCR

1) This paper is a proof of concept. (The paucity of numerical data makes even difficult defining it a “pilot”, “preliminary” or “feasibility” study.) This should be clearly reflected in the title.

2) Page 13, In vivo interactions: standard deviations larger than the mean value are a clear further sign that the data distribution is not normal. This means that they can't be expressed as mean/SD and the statistical tests should be non-parametric. Please revise Methods and Results accordingly.

MER

3) The Introduction section is very long. It should be shortened.

4) Page 9, In vivo interactions…: TNF-alpha is not the only stimulation capable of provoking adhesion, so “necessity” is not the best term to be used here.

5) Page 25, Table 2: Rows and columns should be swapped.

DR

6) Typo “macrophageendothelium” in Keywords.

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

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