Reviewer’s report

Title: Echocardiography-based Left Ventricular Mass Estimation. What Does Really Mean Hypertrophy?

Version: 1 Date: 16 May 2005

Reviewer: Marcia Barbosa

Reviewer’s report:

General
Left ventricular hypertrophy is an important risk factor involved in several diseases. Although several methods can be used for its diagnosis, echocardiography has an important role because of it is available at low cost.

This is a comprehensive review on all aspects of hypertrophy, which is interesting even for those not involved with echocardiography. The authors have made an outstanding review, that is, at the same time, very didactic, making echocardiographic criteria easy to understand even for those not familiar with the subject.

All major papers on the subject have been included, giving an excellent idea how the concepts used today in the echocardiographic diagnosis were built.

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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)

Mentioned in the previous review

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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