Reviewer's report

Title: Comparison of tricuspid inflow and superior vena caval Doppler velocities in acute simulated hypovolemia: New noninvasive indices for evaluating right ventricular preload.

Version: 1 Date: 12 April 2006

Reviewer: Francesca Sbandi

Reviewer's report:

In the present study Liu et al. suggest an interesting and new possible noninvasive indice for evaluating right ventricular preload by a comparison of tricuspidal inflow and superior vena caval Doppler velocities in acute simulate hypovolemia. It will be useful to have noninvasive indices to evaluate the cardiac preload and to predict the fluid responsiveness, when a therapy with volume expansion is necessary for improving the haemodynamic condition.

There are only a few issues that authors might want to address.

Title: you can individualize that the Doppler velocities are derivated from transtoracic echocardiography.

Table II: - In “Relationship to LBNP” you can delete the column relative to “slope” and “intercept”.
- It is not clear the magnitude of LBNP that the analysis concerns.
- Moreover you can apply a multivariate analysis between indices.

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.