Reviewer's report

Title: Novel Insights in Sequential Bi-Ventricular Pacemaker Programming Using Echo Doppler

Version: Date: 10 October 2006

Reviewer: Lorenza Pratali

Reviewer's report:

General
A very original and important study showing the need of echo-driven V-V optimization in non-responders to CRT.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
The paper should be structured as an original contribution, with a brief section describing the main group data in the overall cohort of 8 patients.
A table with Patients’ demographics and main echocardiographic findings prior and after optimization would be helpful.
The title might be more descriptive (for instance: “Echo-driven V-V optimization determines clinical improvement in CRT non-responders”).
Please, organize the paper as an original scientific contribution. In the abstract add some numbers, specifying that in the 8 patients of the study population the cardiac output increased after optimization.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory 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.