Author's response to reviews

Title: Doppler findings in a rare Coronary Artery Fistula

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr. Picano,

thank you very much for considering the publication of our Case Report in „Cardiovascular Ultrasound“. I appreciate the reviewers comments. Here are our answers regarding reviewer #2 comments; all claimed text changes of reviewer #1 have been implemented.

Major revisions:
1) - How was the Doppler pattern? – The coronary artery showed a exclusive diastolic flow – this information is added in case report section. 
- Which echo machine has been used? – HP Sonos 7500, 5 MHz transducer, Philips Medical Systems, Germany – this information is added in case report section.
2) - Which echo view is Figure1 – Figure1 is an atypical short axis view (LV) selected due to best recognizability of the coronary artery and CAF. As requested the legends are edited again.
3) No diastolic heart murmur was found; how do you explain that? – This is an interesting point: When the coronary artery fistula is draining into LV, the auscultatory patterns are variable; a diastolic de-crescendo murmur may occur alone or it may be preceded by a midsystolic murmur as a result of augmented flow across the aortic valve. Alternative explanations have been proposed for the presence or absence of a systolic component to the murmur of coronary arterial LV fistula. If the stoma of the fistula is large and remains widely patent as the LV contracts, blood can flow into the fistula during systole and generate a systolic murmur. Due to the observed Doppler pattern this can not be the case, so that the source of the systolic murmur may one of the associated abnormalities (PFO; VSD; mitral- and tricuspid regurgitation) or the augmented flow. A quiet diastolic murmur should be there, either it was too quiet to detect or not to differentiate in a newborn baby with a high heart rate.

Minor revisions:
1) - 3) All typos and incompletenesses are removed

We hope that you will find it ready for full acceptance now.

Thank you very much. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely

Christian Jung