Author's response to reviews

Title: Current Clinical Applications of Spectral Tissue Doppler Echocardiography (E/E’ ratio) as a Noninvasive Surrogate for Left Ventricular Diastolic Pressures in the Diagnosis of Heart Failure With Preserved Left Ventricular Systolic Function

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Reviewer 1
- E/E’ has been used in place of E/Ea in the revised version
- Reference regarding the concept of ultrasound lung comets has been added

Reviewer 2
- Intentionally, pathophysiologic mechanisms regarding HFPSF have not been approached because they are complex, not well elucidated and subject to current active controversy. The unique purpose of the present review is to propose a simple, reliable diagnostic approach for a heterogeneous clinical syndrome. Further, the use of pulmonary capillary hypertension as a hallmark of HFPSF overcomes this limitation since PC hypertension is a consequence of "severe" myocardial dysfunction regardless of underlying pathophysiologic mechanisms.
- To avoid redundancy with the discussion, the conclusion has not been detailed as requested. Rather, I preferred to add 2 figures to clearly explicit the usefulness of E/E’ for the diagnosis of HFPSF according to the clinical presentation.