Reviewer's report

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

Version: 1 Date: 19 March 2007

Reviewer: Luna Gargani

Reviewer's report:

General
This paper is an accurate review on the employments of spectral tissue doppler echocardiography as a noninvasive marker of left ventricular diastolic pressures. The Authors have extensively reviewed the pertaining literature, both referring to pathophysiological aspects, and to clinical applications. The paper is well written, especially considering the difficulties in organizing the abundant pertaining literature. Nevertheless, I would suggest to simplify and shorten some non essential parts, (i.e. explanation of Starling equation), and carefully avoiding repetitions of the same concept.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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?: 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.