Author's response to reviews

Title: Noninvasive monitoring of regional and global function in peritoneal metastasis rat model after surgical and cytostatic therapy: assessment with tissue Doppler and non-Doppler 2D strain echocardiography

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Letter of Resubmission

Dear Editor,

We would like to submit the revised manuscript for publication in Cardiovascular Ultrasound.

Noninvasive monitoring of regional and global function in peritoneal metastasis rat model after surgical and cytostatic therapy: assessment with tissue Doppler and non-Doppler 2D strain echocardiography

General

The spelling mistakes were corrected and the format of the paper is now according to the journal guidelines. In the following you find the specific issues raised by the reviewers:

Reviewer 1 and 2:

1. A major concern was the statistical analysis. Because of the fact that the calculated p-values are to be understood as explorative ones, no adjustments for multiple testing were made. Additionally, no generalisation of the results can be undertaken, particularly not in the sense of superiority. To test for superiority, a new study would have to be performed. We have changed this in the statistics
section on page 8-9.

2. A myocardial tissue of the rats was not examined histologically. Therefore we cannot compare the echocardiographic findings with histology. This issue is mentioned in "limitations" (page 13).

3. The part on the inter- and intra-observer variability was deleted.

4. The discussion was shortened.

5. Even though the tables seem long and busy, we would like to keep the tables: They can be used in further studies dealing with rat echocardiography as reverence values. We have added boxplot figures to illustrate our main findings.

We hope that the manuscript in its revised form meets the criteria for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Fabian Knebel, Adrian C. Borges,