Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2 Date: 11 June 2007

Reviewer: Anca Irina Corciu

Reviewer's report:

This experimental study shows the value of strain echo in detecting early changes in left ventricular function induced by oncologic therapy in rats. The study design is appropriate, the subjects is of high interest, and the results are believable. However, there are several formal inaccuracies that should be revised:

1- Please, study the Journal pre-submission checklist! References should be listed with progressive numbers in text (not by first author?'s name); no condensed abstract is needed; references format should be different (for instance: Watson LE, Sheth M, Denyer RF, Dostal DE: Baseline echocardiographic values for adult male rats. J Am Soc Echocardiogr 2004, 17:161-167)

2- Innumerable spelling mistakes should be corrected with a spell-check (abstract, line 8: oncological; divided; etc?).

3- Main results of key ultrasound parameters might be summarized in a Figure (bar histograms?) to improve readability of the manuscript.

What next?: Accept after minor essential 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.