Author's response to reviews

Title: Flow-volume loops derived from three-dimensional echocardiography: a novel approach to the assessment of left ventricular hemodynamics

Authors:

Kambiz Shahgaldi (kambiz.shahgaldi@karolinska.se)
Emil Soderqvist (esoderqvist@sjm.com)
Petri Gudmundsson (pg@hhgab.com)
Reidar Winter (reidar.winter@karolinska.se)
Jacek Nowak (jacek.nowak@ki.se)
Lars-Ake Brodin (lars-ake.brodin@syd.kth.se)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Thank you very much for reviewing our manuscript. We have studied thoroughly all the comments of the editor and the reviewers and prepared a new, revised version of the manuscript that you would find enclosed. We hope that you would find the way in which we have addressed the comments of the reviewers satisfactory and we would be most grateful if you would reconsider the revised manuscript for publication in the *Cardiovascular Ultrasound*.

Specifically, we have addressed the issues raised by the reviewers as follows:

**Reviewer #1**

1. *Numbering of the pages of the manuscript.* The pages of the manuscript have now been duly numbered.

2. *Abstract, line 7.* “Equipment” is now spelled correctly.

3. *Table 2 unreadable.* We have reformatted Table 2 and it should be now fully readable.

4. *The issue of left ventricular elastance and the method of Bombardini when discussing the pressure-volume loops in the Introduction and Discussion.* The method proposed by Bombardini has now been mentioned in the Introduction on page 3, paragraph 3 (new reference 17) when discussing an alternative non-invasive echocardiographic approach to the assessment of left ventricular contractility. This approach is also discussed in the Discussion section of the manuscript in the last paragraph on page 5 and in the first paragraph on page 6, with new references 20, 21, 22, and 23.

**Reviewer #2**

1. *Table 2 not readable.* The table has now been reformatted as mentioned above under Reviewer #1, item 3.

2. *Unclear abbreviation on page 3, line 10.* “2DE-based assessment” has now been changed to “2D-echocardiography-based assessment”.

3. *Wrong numbering of the references.* The numbering of references have now been corrected and new references, i.e. 17, 20, 21, 22, 23 have been added.

I hope that these comments along with the changes in the manuscript resolve the issues raised by the editor and the reviewers.