Author's response to reviews

Title: Distribution of Ultrasonic Radiofrequency Signal Amplitude Detects Lipids in Atherosclerotic Plaque

Authors:

Hisao Hara (h.hisao1967@gmail.com)
Taro Tsunoda (t-taro@sd5.so-net.ne.jp)
Naohiko Nemoto (naohiko@oha.toho-u.ac.jp)
Itaru Yokouchi (itayoko@green.ocn.ne.jp)
Masaya Yamamoto (masaya-ym@nifty.com)
Tsuyosi Ono (ZXB00477@nifty.ne.jp)
Masao Moroi (moroi@med.toho-u.ac.jp)
Makoto Suzuki (smakoto@oha.toho-u.ac.jp)
Kaoru Sugi (sugi@oha.toho-u.ac.jp)
Masato Nakamura (masato@oha.toho-u.ac.jp)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
12, APR, 2008

Dear Editor

I am enclosing our original revised manuscript entitled “Distribution of ultrasonic radiofrequency signal amplitude detects lipids in atherosclerotic plaque of coronary arteries: an ex-vivo study” by Hisao Hara, Taro Tsunoda, Masaya Yamamoto, Naohiko Nemoto, Itaru Yokouchi, Masao Moroi, Makoto Suzuki, Kaoru Sugi, and Masato Nakamura, which we are submitting for consideration for publication in the Cardiovascular Ultrasound.

We hope you will give favorable consideration to this manuscript and find it acceptable for publication in your journal.

We show answer for the comment of reviewer.

Sincerely yours,

Hisao Hara, MD
Division of Cardiovascular Medicine,
Toho University Ohashi Medical Center,
2-17-6 Ohashi, Meguro-ku,
Tokyo, 153-8515, Japan
Phone: +81-3-3468-1251
Fax: +81-3-3468-1269
Reviewer 1

This is an important, novel, methodologically immaculate study of great potential interest. It identifies backscatter spatial heterogeneity as a hallmark of lipidic plaque.

I have only minor suggestions that the Authors might wish to address:
1) In the title, please be more descriptive: for instance, "Distribution of ultrasonic radiofrequency signal amplitude detects lipids in atherosclerotic plaque of coronary arteries: an ex-vivo study".

We changed the title that seems to have been pointed out.

2) On page 5, please add some information on the characteristics of patients from whom specimens were obtained: how many patients, age and gender, cause of death and risk factors, which coronary segments was sampled.

I add patient information.


I added it to reference.

Reviewer 2

This is an interesting and well written manuscript. The data are sound and the methodology is appropriate.

- Try to put into context the methodology employed. Ultrasonic radiofrequency signal has never
actually entered into the clinical practice and remained in research laboratory. Discuss if the technology is ready for clinical use.

This method is examination in Off-line. However, We can make it on-line system, and there is not the problem technically either. It is possible enough to build a clinical on the site usable system.

- Address the limitations of the method.
- Discuss the clinical implications of the present results.

I can perform the qualitative diagnosis of the lesion with gray scale IVUS. I think with a system of the effectiveness very much.

As Future implication, I write it(page).