Reviewer's report

Title: Comparison of the effect of pressure loading on left ventricular size, systolic and diastolic function in canines with left ventricular dysfunction with preserved and reduced ejection fraction

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Reviewer: Rosa Sicari

Reviewer's report:

In the present experimental study, Lavine et al. demonstrate that haemodynamic parameters are not different between dogs with preserved and reduced EF. In fact, both conditions had similar degrees of LV dilatation, increased filling pressures and increased index of myocardial performance. The methodology is appropriate, the data are sound and the conclusions are important.

Maybe both methods and discussion section of the manuscript could be shortened. As authors state, due to the experimental nature of the observation, no extrapolation to clinical conditions can be drawn. Nonetheless, due to the clinical relevance of LV dysfunction with normal EF, authors should try to at least hypothesize the clinical implications of their findings.

Since all dogs underwent echocardiography it would be very interesting for the readers of the journal to see moving images of the two experimentally induced conditions.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.