Reviewer's report

Title: Identification of high risk patients with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy in a Northern Greek population.

Version: 1 Date: 20 June 2009

Reviewer: Rosa Sicari

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting study evaluation a population of HCM patients from a reference institution in Greece. The methodology is appropriate and the results are sound.

There are minor issues that authors may address:

1. Spirito et al. have indicated that in patients with interventricular septum thickness >30 mm, the indication to ICD is a Class I. Please comment.
2. Only 50% of patients are on beta-blockers? Please comment.
3. How many of the patients with risk factors developed obstruction?
4. Since this is a follow-up study it would be interesting to have the survival data presented in a KM analysis having as a surrogate end-point such as aborted death and/or significant arrhythmias.
5. For the assessment of survival a Cox Model should be employed or a multivariable model to assess how the several risk factors interplay.
6. Myocardial biopsy is not recommended in this set of patients. Please discuss.
7. Please, due to the readership of the journal, images and sample cases (clips) should be uploaded (there is no space limit)

Minor: the English language should be revised.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'