Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Usefulness of NT-pro BNP monitoring to identify echocardiographic responders following cardiac resynchronization therapy: a randomized prospective study

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 8 June 2009

**Reviewer:** Rosa Sicari

**Reviewer’s report:**

This is an interesting and well written manuscript addressing an important clinical problem. The study provides a wealth of data but some remain hidden in the manuscript. The part dedicated to CRT and MR is far too long.

1. Authors performed stress echocardiography in all their patients but they do not provide how patients with contractile reserve respond to CRT and how the presence of a contractile reserve may have impact on the NT-proBNP values at follow-up. Authors report the correlation but no clear explanation in the results section of the manuscript.

2. This very same aspect should be discussed in depth in the discussion section of the manuscript.


4. Please upload sample cases (movies; there is no space limit)

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest 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'