Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of right ventricular function as measured by tricuspid annular plane systolic excursion in heart failure

Version: 1 Date: 13 September 2009

Reviewer: Rosa Sicari

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting and well conducted study. Authors conclude that TAPSE as a marker of right ventricular role plays a little role if any in patients with congestive heart failure. The issue is quite controversial and several studies support or rebut the present hypothesis.

There are a few issues that authors should address:
1. On pg. 4, line 9 starting with “Although only….. was performed” is not clear to this reviewer.
2. Please discuss at length why other studies had different results
3. The reason why TAPSE does not work in this set of patients is not clear and more insights should be given.
4. Sample cases should be uploaded (there is no space limit).

Minor: There are several typos throughout the manuscript

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’