Reviewer's report

Title: Left Ventricular Strain and Strain Rate by 2D Speckle Tracking in Chronic Thromboembolic Pulmonary Hypertension before and after Pulmonary Thromboendarterectomy

Version: 1 Date: 11 August 2010

Reviewer: Rosa Sicari

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting study addressing diastolic and systolic function in patients with post-embolic pulmonary hypertension before and after thromboendarterectomy. There are a few issues that should address:

1. The main limitations of the study is the feasibility. Authors do discuss it in the discussion section of the manuscript but they should also report the data in the results section of the manuscript. Moreover, this is a major problem with non-Doppler techniques and such a low feasibility make their clinical use unlikely, at the moment. Please discuss.

2. The clinical implications of the study are not clear. Please address.

3. Due to the nature of the journal please upload images of sample cases before and after treatment.

4. You may be interested in citing the following manuscript: Tissue Doppler and strain imaging: anything left in the echo-lab? Citro R, Bossone E, Kuersten B, Gregorio G, Salustri A Cardiovascular Ultrasound 2008, 6:54

5. In revising please comply to the rules of the journal.

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'