Reviewer's report

**Title:** Echocardiography in patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy: usefulness of old and new techniques in the diagnosis and pathophysiological assessment.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 1 February 2010

**Reviewer:** Lauro Cortigiani

**Reviewer's report:**

In this review, Losi et al describe in details the role of echocardiographic methodology in the diagnosis and evaluation of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. The message is clinically useful for the reader and I encountered no major problem with the paper. Nevertheless, I believe that the manuscript is too long in the current version (13 pages) and it should be shortened accordingly. Using more concise sentences would improve the overall quality of the paper.

I have the following additional suggestions:

- Page 4, lines 7-9 “Nowadays, we know that these findings may be present in other forms of secondary and primary hypertrophy, like chronic systemic and reno-vascular hypertension, Fabry’s disease, glicogenosis, Friedreich ataxia etc.”

  Please, rephrase as follow “However, these findings may be present ....”.

  In addition, provide appropriate references for chronic systemic and reno-vascular hypertension, Fabry’s disease, glicogenosis, and Friedreich ataxia.

- Page 7-9, paragraph “LV hypertrophy in other forms of genetic diseases”. This paragraph should be shortened providing essential clinical informations for the different pathologies and focusing on the echocardiographic findings. Moreover, I suggest to add a table illustrating the echocardiographic characteristics for the different genetic diseases.

- Page 15, line 16. Please, specify the clinical end-points adopted in the study and add a figure showing the survival curves for patients with preserved and impaired coronary flow reserve.

- It would be nice summarizing in a table the main echocardiographic findings in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy with their relative prognostic impact (established / unknown) and the corresponding echo method for the assessment.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a
statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests