Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Stress Induced Hypertensive Response: Should it be evaluated more carefully?

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 10 May 2011

**Reviewer:** Rosa Sicari

**Reviewer’s report:**

In the present manuscript authors address an important and practical clinical issue: the hypertensive response during exercise. However, there are a few issues that authors should address:

1. If this is a review of the topic, it is too short.
2. Authors should expand the potential usefulness and application of new echo technologies during exercise stress echocardiography. How these softwares may improve diagnosis and provide insights on myocardial function.
3. In line with the previous comment, heterogeneity of regional function may be the mirror of heterogeneity in perfusion, widely demonstrated in hypertensives with several techniques, and such a finding may have relevant clinical, prognostic and therapeutic implications. Please expand.
4. Contractility may be measured in the stress echo lab in a simple way (see Bombardini et al.) and the typical hypercontractile response during stress echocardiography in hypertensive is accompanied by ecg changes, chest pain and reduced coronary flow reserve. It would be important to know if the application of tissue Doppler and its derivatives may provide novel information on the pathophysiologic changes related to hypertension.
5. A large body of evidence has been obtained with the application of stress echocardiography to hypertension. Please discuss.
6. Moreover, the hypertensive response identifies, independent of underlying hypertension, subjects at higher risk of experiencing events in the long-term. Please discuss.
7. Due to the nature of the journal it would be useful for the readership of the journal to have sample cases (clips).

**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'