Reviewer's report

Title: Left Atrial Volume Predicts Adverse Cardiac and Cerebrovascular Events in Patients with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Version: 2 Date: 24 October 2011

Reviewer: Rosa Sicari

Reviewer's report:

The present manuscript has not been extensively modified as requested by the referees. There are still major issues that authors should address:

1. The rephrase of normal LV function with normal pump function is quite awkward. In HCM patients both the diastolic dysfunction and the grade of MR may influence significantly LV function. Please give a quantitative EF measurement and keep normal LV function as a definition.

2. The final patient population consisted of 102 subjects but authors did not explain how they reached that number from a larger group of 142. Moreover, they refer to selection criteria that are not given.

3. Please keep the FU median time.

4. As requested in our previous report, please do not separate the population on the basis of events. Give a table with the patient population characteristics, in general and then separate in the 2 groups.

5. It is not clear why AF is not considered as an event and how it is used in data analysis. Is an endpoint?

6. As requested in the previous report, authors have to show the additive value of LAVI assessment for the prediction of events. Please prepare a table with the univariable and multivariable Cox analysis.

7. The study by Nistri, addressed an important methodological issue in general for the assessment of left atrium volume and should be discussed.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'