Reviewer's report

Title: A Novel Technique for Assessing and Quantifying the Interventricular Systolic Relationship

Version: 1 Date: 27 October 2011

Reviewer: Rosa Sicari

Reviewer's report:

In the present manuscript Bruhl et al. use the MAPSE/TAPSE ratio and LVs/RVs ratio to assess the interventricular systolic relationship. Authors conclude that these 2 parameters are good surrogates of systolic ventricular relationship and interdependence. The manuscript is well written, the methodology is appropriate and the results are sound. There are a few issues that authors should clarify:

1. It is not clear what authors mean by the definition of “healthy adult patients”. They can either be patients or healthy subjects. Please clarify how they were selected.

2. In line with the previous comment, more data on the population under investigation should be put in table.

3. Please expand on the potential use in clinical conditions.

4. The title should be changed because the definition of a novel technique with 2 old parameters such as MAPSE and TAPSE or TDI is misleading.

Minor

On pg. 4, please correct <50 which should read >50

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'