Author's response to reviews

Title: Left Ventricle Remodelling By Double-Patch Sandwich Technique

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Cover letter

To Editor of Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery
Mr. Vipin Zamvar

Dear Sir,
corrections were carried out as requested by reviewers.

As requested by the reviewer Dr. Giovanni Battista Luciani (comment 1981482527119544): 1) Time intervals and number of other procedures were inserted in Abstract and Methods sections. 2) A last row was made to give mean +/-SD values in the three tables when appropriate. 3) The statistical method we used was specified in Methods - Statistical analysis section. 4) Table-text repetition: symptoms, functional class, BSA, EF, ESV and EDV were cancelled in methods section. 5) Title was changed to: Left Ventricle Remodelling By Double-Patch Sandwich Technique. 6) In Results section: "...we started to cover the inner dacron patch with a pericardial patch..." was removed because it was done on 3 patients only and it is not an integral part of the repair. 7) "CEC" was corrected with "CPB" for cardio-pulmonary bypass.

As requested by the reviewer Dr. Karl Dossche (comment 9253127621219078): 1) Viability tests were explained in Methods - Patients section. 2) The kind of suture was detailed in Methods - Technique section. 3) The anticoagulation protocol was introduced in Results section.

As requested by the reviewer Dr. Mauro Rinaldi (comment 1452877413122243): 1) Table 3 was reassessed

As requested by all reviewers: 1) Discussion was shortened and the following paragraphs were cancelled with the related bibliographic entries: a) "Histologic examination of the edge tissue ...", b) "LAD artery was grafted ...", c) "By mathematical simulations ...", d) "Helical myofibre orientation ...". Moreover, Discussion was divided into 2 sections, patches function and patches shape and size, for a better comprehension. 2) English was checked by a native speaker

With best regard
Mantova 18th December 2006
Dr. Ernesto Tappainer, MD