Reviewer's report

**Title:** Case Study: Expanded Indications for Simplified Aortic Cannulation - Reoperative Congenital Heart Surgery

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 13 November 2007

Reviewer: Pasquale Mastroroberto

**Reviewer's report:**

General
The article proposed for publication by Knott-Craig and coll. Describes simplified arterial cannulation extended to reoperative congenital heart surgery. Alternative site of aortic cannulation has been widely described in literature (for example axillary cannulation in acute aortic dissection or redo operation for CABG or valvular diseases) both as direct or side-graft cannulation. Other Authors have proposed direct carotid cannulation when circulatory arrest with antegrade cerebral perfusion is mandatory.

These considerations are focused on adult cardiac surgery. In the cases proposed by Knott-Craig and coworkers the only originality is the expanded indication for reoperative congenital heart surgery.

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**Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)**

The section "Discussion and evaluation" may be rewritten with other information presented in Literature together with the section "References"

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**Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)**

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**Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)**

**What next?:** Reject as not of sufficient priority to merit publishing in this journal

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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