Reviewer’s report

Title: The performance of Contegra conduit for reconstruction of the right ventricular outflow tract: a review

Version: 1 Date: 21 August 2008

Reviewer: GEORGE T. STAVRIDIS

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have to be commended on their effort to analyse a heterogeneous group of published data regarding the use of a material unfamiliar to the majority of cardiac surgeons. Although beyond the scope of this review article, it would be interesting to link potential pathophysiologic mechanisms to the secondary endpoints of follow-up, as the Contegra “vascular valved” conduit has inherent morphologic differences in comparison to, a more desirable for the certain task of the LVOT reconstruction, “cardiac valved” conduit. In addition, as personal communication suggests, modification of the surgical technique, involving the interrupted suture line posteriorly could be examined as a potential solution to the distal anastomotic stenosis.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests