Reviewer's report

**Title:** Repair of injured right inferior pulmonary vein during mitral valve replacement

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 6 October 2009

**Reviewer:** EMMANUEL PAPADAKIS

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Major Compulsory Revisions:

1) There are contradictory expressions: For instance: page (2). right inferior pulmonary vein. page (4). right superior pulmonary vein.

2) The surgical description needs to be more comprehensible.

For instance: page (7-8): “On the other hand…………atriotomy closure ”.

3) page 7: “ of note a postoperative stenosis or obstruction after ablation …”

It has to be clarified whether, the reported stenosis referred to transcatheter or surgical procedure.

4) page 8: The term “blind suturing “: is not an established surgical technique.

5) page 8: “ In our opinion in order to prevent this possible complication, specially in patients with small left atrium,……..”. This preventable comment, seems to be of doubtful. Several surgical techniques to the Mitral Valve have been proposed(1,2,3), instead the conventional approach that the authors used, especially for the cases of small left atrium as, the superior septal approach, and the extended vertical transatrial septal approach.

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

assessment of the manuscript: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions.

I declare that I have no competing interests' below:

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