Reviewer's report

Title: Surgical Management of Life Threatening Events caused by Intermittent Aortic Insufficiency in a Native Valve

Version: 1 Date: 3 August 2010

Reviewer: frank pigula

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting and well written report of acute episodes of near sudden death in an infant.
Intermittent aortic insufficiency was documented, and a possible mechanism was proposed.
Namely the small size of the LCA leaflet, and the lack of the nodule of Arantius.
Surgical fusion of the LC/RC and LC/NC leaflets has thus far prevented additional episodes.

Despite the authors explanation regarding the importance of the nodule of Arantius, very abnormal semilunar valves often require surgery, and intermittent AI has not been recognized in these patients. Many of these valves will have irregular leaflet dimensions and effaced or absent nodules.

Can the authors comment on this?

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'