Reviewer’s report

Title: Remote preconditioning in normal and hypertrophic rat hearts

Version: 6 Date: 22 February 2011

Reviewer: Stella S. Daskalopoulou

Reviewer’s report:

This is a very interesting paper presenting an experimental study on at a distance preconditioning in normal and hypertrophic hearts.

The study is very well designed, and the results are robust. I have no issues with the statistical analyses and the discussion is clear, stating their findings in the context of the evidence from the available literature.

At a distance preconditioning using transient limb ischemia in hypertrophic hearts is a novel application with potential clinical implications.

Two minor suggestions:

The authors mentioned that they had four groups of seven male Winstar rats. They may want to provide the number of rats that died at different stages of the experiment in each group.

The authors may need to discuss briefly the implementation and implication of their finding into humans.

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:

Nothing to declare