Reviewer's report

**Title:** A mathematical model that predicts the length from the left subclavian artery to celiac axis; towards accurate intra aortic balloon sizing.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 15 June 2011

**Reviewer:** DIMITRIOS MIKROULIS

**Reviewer's report:**

The topic of this paper, is about the calculation of the Ideally length of the Intraortic Balloon membrane. This is a common question in the ordinary practice of a cardiothoracic syrgeon. Routinely, IABP size selection is being dictated by the patient's height. Sometimes, this leads to pitfalls. The authors, suggest a mathematical model of accurate IABP sizing. It is an interesting work but with limitations of the small number of cadavers, especially over 182 cm height.

A second question is about the race and nationality of the cadavers. (British or Greek) and if the authors found any somatometric difference between the two groups. In the page 8, line 1,".... hypothetical s patient s hemodynamics....". Correct the "s".

**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.'