Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of esmolol on the cardiac recovery in cardiopulmonary bypass surgery

Version: 1 Date: 28 July 2011

Reviewer: Jie Tian

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript by Sun et al. is interesting and informative. The experiments were well designed and the results are clearly presented.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The demographic characteristics of the study population, such as the age, sex, weight, the New York Heart Association (NYHA) score, mean pulmonary artery pressure, the left ventricular ejection fraction, etc, should be compared between the control and treatment groups and shown in the paper.

2. It is not appropriate to compare quantitative data between the two groups using one-factor analysis of variance in this study. Instead, the continuous variables should be compared using the unpaired Student t-test for normally distributed variables, or the Wilcoxon rank sum test for variables that featured a nonparametric distribution.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. There are some typo errors that should be corrected. In addition, the manuscript needs improvements in language. The English requires editing by a native speaker.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.