Reviewer’s report

Title: Intra-aortic balloon pump: from the old trends and studies to the current "extended" indications of its use

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Reviewer: Panagiotis Dedeilias

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for asking me to review the paper: Intra-aortic balloon pump: from the old trends and studies to the current "extended" indications of its use.

I have found the paper very interesting and although it is about a long standing issue it is worth it to remind to all readers the expanding indications of the intra-aortic balloon pump use. The technical improvements of the current devices and the cumulative knowledge of its use have lowered the complications to a very acceptable rate and have contributed to the expansion of the indications. Nowadays portable devices allow the safe transfer of patients with heart failure to special centers to receive specific treatment. In addition the success rate of the acute coronary syndrome treatment has improved dramatically with the IABP prophylactic use. I would expect some comments regarding the method of the IABP insertion and the paper is ready for publication

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'