Reviewer’s report

Title: Application of Regent Mechanical Valve in Patients with Small Aortic Annulus: 3-year Follow-up

Version: 1 Date: 25 May 2012

Reviewer: yu yu

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It is quite difficult for doctors to operate on a patient with a small aortic annulus. Though aortic root enlargement procedure might be a potential approach, it is complex and time-consuming. In this paper, the authors introduced their experience of ‘Application of Regent Mechanical Valve in Patients with Small Aortic Annulus: 3-year Follow-up’, and concluded that selected patients with small aortic annulus experience satisfactory clinical improvement after aortic valve replacement with modern SJM Regent bileaflet prostheses.

This paper can be accepted with Minor Essential Revisions

Questions:
1. In this paper, the authors applied 17 or 19mm valve in the operation, for us, it is always difficult to make the mind to use a 17mm valve, what is the rationale for the authors?
2. Describe more clearly the two patients of PPM after implantation of 17mm valve.
3. Many spelling and grammar errors found in the manuscript.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

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'