Author's response to reviews

Title: Perioperative application of N-terminal pro-brain natriuretic peptide in patients undergoing cardiac surgery

Authors:

Hua Liu (liuhua1117@126.com)
Chunsheng Wang (wangchunsheng939@126.com)
Lan Liu (liu.lan@zs-hospital.sh.cn)
Yamin Zhuang (zhuang.yamin@zs-hospital.sh.cn)
Xiaomei Yang (yang.xiaomei@zs-hospital.sh.cn)
Ying Zhang (zhang.ying@zs-hospital.sh.cn)

Version: 2 Date: 1 July 2012

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editor:

I’m grateful that my manuscript has been peer reviewed and I have read the reviewer’s report carefully. Now I will give a point-by-point response to the concerns.

First, the preoperative NT-proBNP level is significantly different in the subgroups of NYHA heart function (p<0.001). I have mentioned this in my article. There is no difference of postoperative NT-BNP level of conventional CABG and OPCABG (p=0.067). Because I didn’t analyze influence factors of postoperative NT-BNP level, I didn’t mention it in my article.

Second, I determine that the best cutoff to predict the mortality was NT-proBNP of 2773.5pg/ml with a sensitivity of 63.6% and a specificity of 80.8% using receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves. The area under the curve (AUC) was 0.738(p=0.008, 95% Confidence Interval 0.58-0.89).

Last, I have corrected some spelling and calculation mistake which I have highlighted the changes.

I hope my article will be accepted by your journal. Please let me know if the manuscript need further revise. Thank you very much for your attention.

Your sincerely, Hua Liu
July, 2012