Reviewer's report

Title: Rupture of Heterologous Pericardial Patch after Aortic Annulus Enlargement

Version: 4  Date: 4 May 2014

Reviewer: SOTIRIS PAPASPYROS

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions: None

Minor essential revisions:

1) page 3. 'Computed tomography (CT) revealed a huge mass IN (missing) front of the right atrium and aortic root…'

2) page 5. 'Therefore, under considering a possibility of pseudoaneursym formation, it may be necessary to perform a periodic CT…' Authors need to rephrase 'under considering a possibility' as it does not make sense.

3) page 6. 'There have, however, been few reports on the equine pericardial patch other than the greater calcification in equine than in bovine pericardium [8].’ I am not sure what the meaning of this statement is and whether it is at all necessary to be included in the manuscript. Maybe the authors could elaborate/clarify?

Discretionary revisions:

1) I believe that the 'case report' part of the manuscript would benefit from being broken down with subheadings: Presenting complaint, Past medical history, Investigations, operative technique, recovery/outcome, follow-up. The reasons for this suggestion is that the writing style of the authors is somewhat difficult to follow (probably due to the fact that English is not their first language) and the patient has a complicated history. I believe subheadings would make the manuscript easier for the average reader to follow.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests