Author's response to reviews

Title: Propensity Matched Analysis of Longterm Outcomes Following Transcatheter Based Aortic Valve Implantation Versus Classic Aortic Valve Replacement in Patient With Previous Cardiac Surgery

Authors:

Nestoras Papadopoulos (nestoras.papadopoulos@gmail.com)
Nina Schiller (npaps_@hotmail.com)
Stephan Fichtlscherer (nestoras.papadopoulos@gmail.com)
Ralf Lehmann (npaps_@hotmail.com)
Christian F Weber (christion.weber@kgu.de)
Anton Moritz (nestoras.papadopoulos@gmail.com)
Mirko Doss (MirkoDoss@aol.com)
Andreas Zierer (npaps_@hotmail.com)

Version: 3
Date: 8 May 2014

Author's response to reviews:

- We would like to thank Prof. Moon for his encouraging comments. Based on his review report we proceeded to following changes in the revised version of the manuscript.
  1. We included in Table 1 and Table 3 a report of all patients (52 TAVI and 167 open) with the corresponding p-values in the revised version of the manuscript (page 20 and 22)
  2. In the revised version of the discussion part we performed following changes regarding high redo mortality rate: “Although experienced surgeons would find early mortality following Redo-AVR of 16% too high, our observed 30 day mortality within the Redo-AVR group seems to be in line with data reported in previous series (1,5,7,18-21)” (page 11)
  3. In the revised version of the discussion part we performed following changes regarding paravalvulare leak rates:” Results recently published from the PARTNER trial investigator group showed that the presence of paravalvulare leakage was associated with increased late mortality (6). In our series we could not find such a correlation, probably due to the small number of patients investigated in the current study” (page 13)
  4. The last sentence of the conclusion has been deleted both in the abstract and in the manuscript (page 2, 14)

- We would like to thank Prof. Eggebrecht for his kindness to accept the manuscript in his current version.