Reviewer's report

Title: Atrial Myxoma Presenting with Orthostatic Hypotension: a case report

Version: 3 Date: 27 October 2008

Reviewer: Emmanouil Kapetanakis

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: No

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

I read with interest the report by Vicari et al. describing a case in which a left Atrial Myxoma presented with the unusual symptoms of orthostatic hypotension while none of the classic ones of dizziness, syncope, dyspnea or chest pain were elicited. The report is concise, well written and well presented. The case is unusual enough to merit presentation. However, I am concerned by the author’s conclusions and suggestions regarding the use of echocardiography as a screening modality and the advocating of its application in all patients presenting with orthostatic hypotension. Such an approach would have a significant impact on service provision, by creating an unnecessary overload, with little potential benefit.

I suggest that the authors revise their conclusion and recommendations at least acknowledging the limitations in implementing them. On a minor note the
reference numbered as 4 is an error. It should be replaced with 5 to correlate with the paper by Takemura et al. I presume that reference 4 should be grouped with reference 3 at the end of the sentence “…tumors in most textbooks of Internal Medicine or Cardiology”.

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests in regards to this case report.