Reviewer’s report

Title: Enhanced expression of ROCK2 in left atrial myocytes of mitral regurgitation: A potential mechanism of myolysis

Version: 2 Date: 31 October 2014

Reviewer: Yoshihiro Fukumoto

Reviewer’s report:

This is a clinical study to examine the role of ROCK in atrial fibrillation with severe MR. This is interesting and ROCK might be a new therapeutic target in atrial fibrillation. However, this reviewer has some criticisms in this paper as described below.

Major comments:
1. The authors should have examined ROCK1, even if ROCK1 may not be expressed.
2. Tables 2 and 3. They are not suitable to tables. They should be in graphs with demonstrable pictures.
3. Figure 2. It seems that all tissues were stained in each ROCK2 and Caspase. Were there immuno-negative cells?
4. Figure 3. The authors should show myolytic and non-myolytic myocytes also in demonstrable pictures.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests’ below.