The manuscript “Elevated expression of periostin in diabetic cardiomyopathy and the effect of valsartan” represents an original contribution to innovative and interesting evidences regarding the role of periostin in left ventricular remodeling in diabetic rats.

Recent literature data suggested that there is a strong relationship between periostin overexpression and cardiac remodeling in human and rat failing heart or myocardial heart. Also, it has been shown that the blockage of Ang II AT1 receptor is the main mechanism of valsartan’s protection on cardiac remodeling. Having this in mind, authors designed a study aimed to investigate the changes of periostin expressions in cardiac remodeling and the effects of valsartan on the regulation of periostin expression.

The title of the article and abstract are in agreement with the aim and the results from the study, and they represent precise content of the work.

Methodology of the paper was described clearly, and the methods are appropriate and well described. The study included 60 male Wister-Albino rats in which diabetes was induced by a single intraperitoneal injection of streptozotocin dissolved in 0.1M sodium citrate, whereas rats in control group were injected with 0.1M citrate 10 buffer alone. Three weeks after the injection of STZ, blood was collected from tail vein and samples were analyzed for blood glucose. The eligible diabetic rats were randomly assigned to two groups: diabetes plus valsartan and diabetes. After 16 weeks, all animals from each group were euthanized and weight of the left ventricle was noted in order to determine the degree of left ventricular hypertrophy. Statistical analysis has been performed properly.

The results were presented in details. The discussion is well balanced and based on current data from up to date references.

However, the authors need to be aware of the lack of the study and should mention them in the paper.

The writing and use of English language is acceptable.

Therefore, the original comprehensive contribution, structured analyses of
previous data, together with descriptive and clear evaluation of own data in respect to literature, recommend this manuscript to be published.

Major Compulsory revisions
none

Minor essential revisions
none

Discretionary revisions
limitations of the study

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

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