Reviewer’s report

Title: 2-Dimensional Speckle Tracking Echocardiography Predicts Severe Coronary Artery Disease in Women with Normal Left Ventricular Function: A case-control study.

Version: 0 Date: 09 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Giulia Bugani

Reviewer's report:

This is a really interesting paper about Speckle-tracking echocardiography. I have some minor concerns:

- First of all, when did you perform exercise stress echocardiography? Because in "Methods" you wrote about a Bruce protocol treadmill exercise stress test (stress ECG test?), not about stress echocardiography.

- You defined "severe CAD" an occlusion of more than 50% in one or more vessel, while usually it could be consider severe a stenosis greater than 70%. How many patients of "CAD group" did receive percutaneous coronary angioplasty?

- Your main findings were significant reduction in longitudinal S, CS and dyssynchrony in CAD group. It is difficult to find an omogeneous control group, but GLS may be lower in the "CAD group" also because of age (patients are significantly older than control group). In particular, after adjusting for age, only mechanical dyssynchrony (1 SD of the GLS TTP) remained significant. And what about GLS value? Please clarify this aspect.

- Standard echocardiographic data: I don't understand "EF 60 mmHg vs. 63 mmHg". Did you refer to ejection fraction? Please correct measurement unit.

- It is a retrospective collection of data, starting from angiography results; perhaps it could be consider another limitation of the study.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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