Reviewer’s report

Title: Endomyocardial biopsy guided by intracardiac echocardiography as a key step in intracardiac mass diagnosis. A case report series.

Version: 0 Date: 17 Sep 2017

Reviewer: J-H Lee

Reviewer's report:

Authors have presented interesting paper with advantage of novel technology of ICE-guided EMB. The paper may be interesting for readers. I would like to comment some for this case report series.

Although ICE definitely has merit in a variety of settings, it also has limitations. You have to declare the limitation, complication, costs, technical and feasibility issues of ICE. It should include periprocedural vessel or cardiac chamber damage, arrhythmogenic, thrombogenic risk, limitation of far field imaging, and limited manuevrability, etc. The limited use in left-side intracardiac mass is not described as well.

Please find two articles below,

Intracardiac echocardiography for guiding biopsy of cardiac tumors: a novel noninvasive technique; Byung Joo Sun and Jae-Hwan Lee.


Page 2, Line 29-37, Abstract, Conclusion;

Please focus on the role of ICE guided EMB in conclusion session.

The sentence, 'Intracardiac echocardiography is a well-established tool that allows physicians to increase the safety and efficacy of complex cardiac arrhythmia procedures. In addition, diagnoses of different cardiomyopathies rely on the histopathological diagnosis and endomyocardial biopsy is a widely used technique to achieve it.' is duplicated with background and is not needed in the conclusion.
For the cases, please unify it in one way

A 65-year-old woman (O)

A 77-years old male (X) -> A 77 years old male or A 77-year-old male

Page 6, Line 9

A 77-years old male with a previous of diabetes, myocardial infarction

→ A 77-year-old male with a previous history of diabetes, myocardial infarction or A 77-year-old male with diabetes, myocardial infarction

Page 6, Line 47

DLBCL → diffuse large B cell lymphoma

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

Yes

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Needs some language corrections before being published
Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal