Reviewer’s report

Title: Pulmonary embolism causing atrial fibrillation with slow ventricular response: a case report

Version: 1 Date: 20 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Michele Brunelli

Reviewer's report:

This case reports of an old female with arterial hypertension and acute pulmonary embolism (PE). The authors state that exist a direct causality not only between PE and atrial fibrillation (AF), but also that under specific circumstances atrial fibrillation might be slowly conducted through the AV-node. Although the 3 postulated mechanism (see Discussion and Conclusion - please correct line 91, it is the atrio-ventricular node and not the sino-atrial node that controls atrio-ventricular association and ventricular response during AF) seems to be plausible, it is not specified the time between onset of AF with slow ventricular response and pace-maker implantation. It is conceivable that AV node capability might restore when the acute hemodynamic obstruction of the PE (also partially) resolves. Maybe a more watchful approach would have avoided the implantation of the single chamber pace-maker? Furthermore, at follow-up no data about presence (or absence) of AF and AV conduction are presented.

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

Unable to assess

Does the work include the necessary controls?
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Unable to assess

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

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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