Reviewer's report

Title: Prediction of Left Ventricular Reverse Remodeling after Therapy with Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme Inhibitors or Angiotensin II Receptor Blockers and beta Blockers in Patients with Idiopathic Dilated Cardiomyopathy

Version: 2

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Reviewer: Quirino Ciampi

Reviewer's report:

The authors assessed the left ventricular reverse remodeling after therapy with angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin-receptor blockers and # blockers in patients with idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy. Study population included 44 patients with idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy. The authors concluded that combined information on LV end-diastolic dimension and heart rhythm at diagnosis is useful in predicting future left ventricular reverse remodeling in patients with idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy.

The paper is interesting.

However, some points should be clarified.

1. The study population is too small (only 44 patients)
2. The authors should report in the table type and dose of angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin-receptor blockers and # blockers
3. All patients were in therapy with # blockers and angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors or angiotensin-receptor blockers: the authors should analyzed the role of the specific therapy on LVRR
4. The authors should add a table included the variables used in the univariate and multivariate regression analysis
5. Atrial fibrillation was present in only 10 patients, without difference between the 2 groups (LVRR+ and-), and the authors reported in the discussion: “...First, the presence of atrial fibrillation tended to be associated with LVRR”... and they concluded: “...The presence of atrial fibrillation tended to be associated with future LVRR....”. The authors should focus the discussion and conclusions only on the variables significantly different between the 2 studied group.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests'