Reviewer’s report

Title: Preoperative single ventricle function determines early outcome after second-stage palliation of single ventricle heart.

Version: 0 Date: 02 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Silvia Favilli

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript is of interest.

There are some limitations. The results are those expected on the basis of the literature. Both unbalanced atrioventricular (AV) septal defect and AV valve hemodynamically significant regurgitation are well known parameters related to a worse prognosis. An improvement of results after surgical valvuloplasty has been reported by other Centres (a comment on this point should be provided).

The prognostic negative value of ventricular dysfunction is also expected. This was an independent predictor for the Authors.

The comparison between the two different surgical techniques (which do not impact on the final results) is limited by the small numbers, the different age at repair and the slight diverse proportion of hypoplastic left ventricle in the two groups.

Minor remarks:

- Too many abbreviations should be avoided, to make reading easier

- Results, line 8: the sentence is not that clear. HLHS was present in 13 children in group I (56.5%) and 23 in group II (62%)

Level of interest
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