**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Post-operative left atrial volume index is a predictor of the occurrence of permanent atrial fibrillation after mitral valve surgery in patients who undergo mitral valve surgery

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**Reviewer:** Erwan Donal

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Post-operative left atrial volume index is a predictor of the occurrence of permanent atrial fibrillation after mitral valve surgery in patients who undergo mitral valve surgery.

This is a retrospective study with probably missing data and nothing about the A function but this is a valuable study.

It allows to underscore the importance of LA size in MR patients. This has been done in guidelines but the present paper is going a little bit further.

The reading of the manuscript is pleasant for reading.

The pressure gradient across the valve is missing, the presence of a tricuspid regurg and its treatment is missing, the level of pulmonary pressure is missing…

The figure 3 is showing the highly probable lack of power of the study.

Something could be added about the feasibility of the measurements of the LA size in the post-operative period, the method used and recommended to optimize the measurement of LA volume is important.

Also, a subgroup analysis according to the initial mitral valve diseases could be proposed even if it is underpowered. It could be use as a pilot work for further studies.
Level of interest
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An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English
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Acceptable

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