Author’s response to reviews

Title: Clinical implication of disturbed left atrial phasic functions in the heterogeneous population associated with hypertension or atrial fibrillation

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To: Cardiovascular Ultrasound

Dear Professor Jong-Won Ha,

Thank you for your help in our manuscript, entitled: "Clinical implication of disturbed left atrial phasic functions in the heterogeneous population associated with hypertension or atrial fibrillation" (CARU-D-19-00023). Each of the reviewers' comments was carefully considered and the manuscript was revised as suggested. Below you will find the explanation to each of the reviewers' comments and the revision we made.

Reviewer #2: I appreciate the authors for the work that they have done to improve this manuscript.

There are only minor issues with the revised manuscript.

1. Please provide a brief interpretation of the results on the inter- and intra-observer variability of LA strain and strain ratio indexes measurements.

When compared to inter-observer and intra-observer variability for indices, could the differences in measurements between groups be considered clinically relevant?
Response: Thanks for your kind suggestions. We would like to accept your suggestions and add a brief interpretation in the corresponding Figure legend and main text in order to give readers a better understanding of the results on the inter- and intra-observer variability and the Figure 3, as you can see according to the 'tracked changes' in the marked copy of revision.

In addition, considering that all analyzed images were acquired in sinus rhythm, we thought there were no significant differences in measurements between different groups to be considered clinically relevant when compared to inter-observer and intra-observer variability for indices. However, in fact, the 20 patients who selected for assessed inter- and intra-observer variability of LA strain and strain ratio indexes measurements were consisted of 5 patients randomly selected from each group respectively.

2. The revised manuscript still has some typographical errors, such as "without history cardiovascular or systemic disease". The authors should fix typographical errors throughout the manuscript.

Response: Thank you very much for your careful check. We have checked and corrected typographical errors throughout the manuscript.

Above is the explanation and changes we have made. If you have more suggestions, we would like to accept. Thanks for all you have done for our manuscript. We hope this manuscript can be helpful in clinical practice.

Sincerely,

Mengruo Zhu, MD