Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of adaptive servo-ventilation therapy using an innovative ventilator on cardiac function and remodeling in patients with chronic heart failure: study protocol for a confirmatory, multicenter, randomized, controlled study (SAVIOR-C)

Version: 2 Date: 21 October 2014

Reviewer: Johan Verbraecken

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: no remarks

Minor Essential Revisions:
- change title. "using an innovative ventilator" is redundant
- Abstract: the first sentence is too long. It must be rephrased in at least two shorter parts.
- background: line 6: and not a few --> and often, patients ...
- background: line 12: beneficial not only for
- background: line 20 and 21: to use on the long-term, due to different problems, ...
- background: 3rd paragraph: here a reference to a paper or editorial could be given describing the technical evolution in ASV devices during the last years (ASV, ASV bilevel, ASV trilevel).
- background: 3rd paragraph: rephrase last sentence: contractility, induces cardiac reverse remodeling, suppresses sympathetic nerve activity, improves left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF), reduces brain ...
- Methods/Design: line 5: of an ASV group and a control group
- Methods/Design: line 7: at week 12 of the study, on the day of study discontinuation or on the day of ...
- Methods/Design: line 9: The Steering Committee
- Treatment: last sentence: every night --> each night
- Discussion: line 4: However, in both males and females, CHF ...
- Discussion: 2nd paragraph: economic burden; mechanisms is also expected ...
- Discussion: 3rd paragraph: ASV therapy is being accepted rapidly: this is a bombastic sentence and hard to read. Delete on the assumption ....
- Discussion: 4th paragraph: bettering --> improving; .... and via improving the prognosis
- Table 2: wherever --> whenever
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.