



## PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Cardiology

**Manuscript NO:** 57673

**Title:** Endothelial progenitor cells mobilization after maximal exercise according to heart failure severity

**Reviewer's code:** 03531928

**Position:** Editorial Board

**Academic degree:** MD, PhD

**Professional title:** Chief Doctor, Professor

**Reviewer's Country/Territory:** China

**Author's Country/Territory:** Greece

**Manuscript submission date:** 2020-06-24

**Reviewer chosen by:** AI Technique

**Reviewer accepted review:** 2020-06-27 09:11

**Reviewer performed review:** 2020-06-28 14:05

**Review time:** 1 Day and 4 Hours

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Scientific quality</b>       | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish            |
| <b>Language quality</b>         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing<br><input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection |
| <b>Conclusion</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection             |
| <b>Re-review</b>                | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No   |
| <b>Peer-reviewer statements</b> | Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous<br>Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No   |



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#### **SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS**

The authors report on the endothelial progenitor cells mobilization after maximal exercise according to heart failure severity. The study seems appropriately planned and conducted. The methods section seems well described, statistical analysis seems adequate. The discussion is formed properly. The conclusion that an increased EPCs and CECs mobilization after maximal exercise in CHF patients. But there are still some questions. 1. Authors divided all the patients in two groups of severity according to the median value of peak VO<sub>2</sub> (18.0 ml/kg/min), predicted peak VO<sub>2</sub> (65.5%), VE/VCO<sub>2</sub> slope (32.5) and EF (reduced and mid-ranged EF). Is this a reasonable grouping? 2. Authors used three methods for grouping, but only one group was analyzed for demographic and exercise characteristics. Please amend it. 3. The values of cellular populations are expressed in median (25th-75th percentiles). And the difference between the two groups is described by using boxplots. The above indicates that this kind of data belongs to non-normal distribution. Please describe it in the article and present the statistical value.