

29856-ANSWERING REVIEWERS

Title: Catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation facilitated by preprocedural 3-D transesophageal echocardiography: long-term outcome

Modifications performed based on the proposals made by the reviewers and the editorial office

Reviewer 00214305

- 1.) The authors conclude that the results of their study demonstrate that PV imaging prior to catheter ablation of AF is associated with a favourable long-term outcome. Did your findings support such a conclusion ?
See "Conclusion" page 14 (last line), page 15 (first line)
- 2.) Did you select the ablation strategy (Cryo vs. RF) based on a specific anatomy (common ostium) ?
See "Methods / Ablation procedure", page 7 (last paragraph)
- 3.) In 4 patients a second cryoballoon or a standard cyroablation catheter had to be used to achieve complete pulmonary vein isolation. Please explain the difficulty to isolate these veins with the cyroballoon. Did 3D TEE reveal any specific anatomy in these cases ?
See "Results /Ablation strategy", page 10 (third paragraph)

Reviewer 00211908

- 1.) The minor spelling mistakes were corrected (see page 4 and 5).
- 2.) Page 7, line11: Please provide a reference.
The reference was added.
- 3.) Any news about reference No. 27 ?
The manuscript will be published soon.

Editorial office:

The modifications proposed by the editorial office were carried out and are marked in the manuscript (blue letters).

The figures will also be provided as a separate powerpoint file.