

February 14, 2015

To the Editor:

In my quality of Assistant Professor in the Department of Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Notre Dame, I confirm that I reviewed the statistical methods employed by Dr. Philippe Sucosky (email: philippe.sucosky@nd.edu; phone: 574-631-1898) in his manuscript “**BMP-4 and TGF- β 1 Mechanisms in Acute Valvular Response to Supra-Physiologic Hemodynamic Stresses**” submitted to the *World Journal of Cardiology* (ESPS Manuscript NO: 16511).

I received my PhD in Statistics and my expertise is in Applied statistics and Biostatistics. Therefore, I am qualified to conduct the review of the statistical analyses described in the paper.

Based on my review, I attest that:

1. the statistical methods are adequately and appropriately described when they are used to verify the results
2. the statistical techniques are suitable and correct
3. averaging was only performed on homogeneous data and the number of observations and subjects (n) is given
4. values, such as ED50, LD50 and IC50, have the 95% confidence limits calculated and have been compared by weighted probit modeling (using the functions described by Bliss and Finney)
5. the word “significantly” is replaced by its synonyms (if it indicates extent) or the P value (if it indicates statistical significance)

Sincerely,



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