

February 20, 2015



Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 16511-edited.doc).

Title: BMP-4 and TGF- β 1 Mechanisms in Acute Valvular Response to Supra-Physiologic Hemodynamic Stresses

Author: Ling Sun, Philippe Sucosky

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Cardiology*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 16511

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

1. In an effort to make the study more appealing to cardiologists, we have simplified the introduction, tightened the discussion and moved the description of the biological analyses to a new "supplementary material". Those changes resulted in a 17% word count reduction in the body of the manuscript.
2. We have added a brief description of the biological endpoints considered in the study in a new paragraph "Biological Characterization" inserted in the "Materials and Methods" section.
3. The study limitations have been combined in a single paragraph at the end of the discussion section.
4. The statistical analyses have been reviewed by a biostatistician.

Thank you again for publishing our manuscript in the *World Journal of Cardiology*.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'P. Sucosky'.

Philippe Sucosky, PhD, FAHA
Department of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering
University of Notre Dame
143 Multidisciplinary Research Building
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5637
USA
Fax: +1-574-631-2144
E-mail: philippe.sucosky@nd.edu