

ANSWERING REVIEWERS

September 2, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format (file name: 20650-review.doc).

Title: Myocardial perfusion echocardiography and coronary microvascular dysfunction

Authors: Giuseppe Barletta and Maria Riccarda Del Bene

Name of journal: *World Journal of Cardiology*

Manuscript NO.: 20650

The manuscript was revised according to the suggestions of the Reviewers; it was edited by a native English speaker at the American Journal Experts and received AJE certificate for the English language. All the other requirements were met.

Answers to Reviewer:

Reviewer 00575396: We thank the Reviewer for his/her request to add a paragraph about myocardial perfusion scintigraphy SPECT imaging, which certainly enriched the Introduction section. We introduced there the most recent SPECT advances on the topic of myocardial blood flow measurement. The most relevant studies comparing MCE stress echo and SPECT were reported at the Coronary artery stenosis detection section. As suggested, we revised the Future perspective section, discussing the reasons why MCE has not reached the widespread popularity and use as the results of research would advocate.

References and typing errors were corrected.

Reviewer 00225357: We thank the Reviewer for stimulating us to discuss the reasons why MCE is not routinely used in echo labs throughout

the world: we certainly share his/her opinion as to the two main reasons for that. Reimbursement is very low both in the US and in Europe and it does not cover the adjunctive costs imposed by both machine upgrading and the time commitment required to perform and analyze MCE studies and, before that, to complete the learning curve of sonographers and physicians. On the other hand, the lack of widespread popularity of MCE has not yet stimulated industry to develop an automatic operator-independent software of analysis, such those available for global longitudinal strain and 3-dimensional echo evaluation.

We hope that you will now accept the manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Cardiology*.

Sincerely yours,

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