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Name of Journal: *World Journal of Clinical Pediatrics*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 24377

Manuscript Type: Observational Study

RESPONSE LETTER TO REVIEWERS

March 31, 16

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format

Title: A single institution experience with the Ladd's procedure in patients with heterotaxy and stage I palliated single-ventricle

Author: Kurt Piggott, Grace George, Harun Fakioglu, Carlos Blanco, Sukumar Suguna Narasimhulu, Kamal Pourmoghdam, William DeCampi, Hamish Munroe.

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

In response to the reviewer: The authors adopted milrinone infusion before the procedure routinely. Why do they use milrinone before procedure?

To support the single ventricle during general anesthesia and during the stress of a major GI surgery.

Was there any evidence ?

No there is no current evidence to support this.

In addition, what was the dosage of milrinone adopted at their institution?

The dosage used is 0.5 mcg/kg/min infusion

The authors showed the citation in the "Abstract" section, but the citation should not be used in the "Abstract" section. (THIS WAS REMOVED)

Please clarify that in these 8 patients palliative heart surgery had been performed previously to intestinal surgery and not at the time of it.

The palliative surgery/procedure had been completed in all patients prior to the Ladd's procedure.

Protocols are good, and the authors may be congratulated for the one used at their center. However, please try to identify if there are any differences between theirs and those of other institutions.

There have been no reported protocols in the literature in single ventricle patients undergoing the Ladd's procedure.

All references have been corrected.

Thank you for reviewing this manuscript.

Sincerely,

Kurt Piggott, M.D.