

September 5, 2016

Giuseppe De Luca, PhD  
Jian-Jun Li, PD, PhD  
Nathan D. Wong, PhD  
Editors-in-Chief, World Journal of Cardiology

Re: Manuscript # 29426: Mechanisms and Clinical Significance of Early Recurrences of Atrial Arrhythmias after Catheter Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation

Dear Drs. De Luca, Li, and Wong:

We would like to thank the editors and reviewers for taking the time to review our manuscript for publication in your journal. Please see our response to the reviewer comments below. Please note that we have added an additional paragraph summarizing a very important article which was recently published on the topic. We hope that the manuscript is now considered appropriate for publication in your journal.

Sincerely,

Jackson J. Liang, DO  
Corresponding Author

Reviewer Comments:

*Reviewer #1:* This is a good overview over mechanisms of arrhythmia recurrences in the blanking period after catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation.

**Response to reviewer comment:** We thank the reviewer for taking the time to review our manuscript and for the favorable comment.

*Reviewer #2:* This is a timely and authoritative review on the mechanisms and clinical significance of atrial arrhythmias after atrial fibrillation ablation. The manuscript reads well overall. I only have one suggestion for the author to improve readability/appeal to the reader: The review is somewhat too technical & specialized, so inclusion of a table summarizing the main studies discussed in the text (i.e. their key design features & key findings) would help the reader comprehend the contents of this review tremendously.

**Response to reviewer comment:** We thank the reviewer for reviewing our manuscript and for the suggestion of including a summarizing table. We initially intended to include a table outlining major studies examining ERAA, however felt it would be confusing to readers since it was difficult to decide which studies to include in the table (since some studies specifically looked at predictive value of ERAA while others simply reported ERAA rates). Thus, we decided it would be best to omit this table.

*Reviewer #3:* the review give some new information about potential mechanisms of ERAA, and its clinical significance, prognostic implications, and treatment options for ERAA. moreover, we did find similar review in pubmed. So, I think that the paper is suitable publication in the journal.

**Response to reviewer comment:** We are appreciative of the reviewer for taking the time to review our manuscript and for the favorable comments.