Response to Letter Regarding Article, “Percutaneous Left-Ventricular Support With the Impella-2.5-Assist Device in Acute Cardiogenic Shock Results of the Impella-EUROSHOCK-Registry”

We appreciate the comments by Dr Maini regarding our recent article on outcome of percutaneous left-ventricular support with the Impella-2.5 assist device in acute cardiogenic shock.1 In this article, we summarize the results of real-world Impella-2.5 use in Europe outside of randomized trials, where the device is frequently used as last resort option in patients unresponsive to vasopressors, revascularization, and intra-aortic balloon pump support.

We agree with Dr Maini in emphasizing the fact that the disappointing data of the EUROSHOCK Registry likely reflects the selection of the most severely ill patients who have failed first-line treatment of cardiogenic shock. The lack of a control group in this registry hampers definite conclusions on efficacy of Impella-2.5 support at this point. However, decrease in plasma lactate after the beginning of Impella support suggests at least partial reversal of hypoperfusion and supports the hemodynamic efficacy of the device. As suggested in the article, earlier institution of support and rapid escalation to more powerful assist devices could be a recommended strategy in patients failing to improve, which, however, is currently rather based on experience than actual data.1,2

Disclosures
Dr Henriques has received an unrestricted research grant from Abiomed Europe GmbH, Aachen, Germany. The other authors report no conflict.

References
Response to Letter Regarding Article, "Percutaneous Left-Ventricular Support With the Impella-2.5-Assist Device in Acute Cardiogenic Shock Results of the Impella-EUROSHOCK-Registry"

Alexander Lauten, Annemarie E. Engström, Christian Jung, Klaus Empen, Paul Erne, Stéphane Cook, Stephan Windecker, Martin W. Bergmann, Roland Klingenberg, Thomas F. Lüscher, Michael Haude, Dierk Rulands, Christian Butter, Bengt Ullman, Laila Hellgren, Maria Grazia Modena, Giovanni Pedrazzini, Jose P.S. Henriques, Hans R. Figulla and Markus Ferrari

_Circ Heart Fail._ 2013;6:e56
doi: 10.1161/CIRCHEARTFAILURE.113.000343
_Circulation: Heart Failure_ is published by the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Avenue, Dallas, TX 75231
Copyright © 2013 American Heart Association, Inc. All rights reserved.
Print ISSN: 1941-3289. Online ISSN: 1941-3297

The online version of this article, along with updated information and services, is located on the World Wide Web at:
http://circheartfailure.ahajournals.org/content/6/4/e56

Permissions: Requests for permissions to reproduce figures, tables, or portions of articles originally published in _Circulation: Heart Failure_ can be obtained via RightsLink, a service of the Copyright Clearance Center, not the Editorial Office. Once the online version of the published article for which permission is being requested is located, click Request Permissions in the middle column of the Web page under Services. Further information about this process is available in the Permissions and Rights Question and Answer document.

Reprints: Information about reprints can be found online at:
http://www.lww.com/reprints

Subscriptions: Information about subscribing to _Circulation: Heart Failure_ is online at:
http://circheartfailure.ahajournals.org//subscriptions/