

## Authors reply

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank you for your interest in our study and the valuable remarks. In our study entitled “Association of neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio and CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc score with left atrial thrombus in patients who are candidates for percutaneous mitral balloon valvuloplasty,”<sup>[1]</sup> 51% (n=96) of patients were on warfarin therapy. Among all patients, the number who were on warfarin treatment was significantly higher in the atrial fibrillation group compared with the sinus rhythm group (98.8% vs 13.3%; p<0.001). When looking at the presence of spontaneous echo contrast (SEC) and thrombus, the number of warfarin users was significantly higher in the thrombus-positive group compared to the SEC/thrombus-negative group (67.7% vs 13.3%; p=0.001), and in the SEC-positive group, the number of warfarin users was significantly higher compared with the SEC/thrombus-negative group (51.4% vs 13.3%; p=0.005). There was no significant difference between the SEC-positive and thrombus-positive groups regarding warfarin treatment (p=0.099). Moreover, when we evaluated the effectiveness of warfarin therapy (accepted as inter-

national normalized ratio [INR]  $\geq 2$ ) just before the transesophageal echocardiographic procedure, there was no significant difference between the study groups (in the SEC/thrombus-negative group 50% of patients had INR  $\geq 2$ , in the SEC-positive group 47.9% of patients had INR  $\geq 2$ , in the thrombus-positive group 42.9% of patients had INR  $\geq 2$ ; p=0.916). We agree that adding the data mentioned above will be useful to interpret factors related to left atrial thrombus formation in patients with mitral stenosis.

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## References

1. Maden O, Balci KG, Balci MM, Kuyumcu S, Selçuk H, Selçuk MT. Association of neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio and CHA<sub>2</sub>DS<sub>2</sub>-VASc score with left atrial thrombus in patients who are candidates for percutaneous mitral balloon valvuloplasty. *Turk Kardiyol Dern Ars* 2017;45:339–47. [CrossRef]