LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The British Heart Journal welcomes letters commenting on papers that it has published within the past six months.

All letters must be typed with double spacing and signed by all authors.

No letter should be more than 600 words.

In general, no letter should contain more than six references (also typed with double spacing).

Non-invasive determination of cardiac output by Doppler echocardiography and electrical bioimpedance

Sir,—Dr Northridge and colleagues (1990;63:93–7) have, inadvertently I am sure, incorrectly cited the proper name of the stroke volume equation currently implemented in NCCOM3. While it is true that the general form of the equation of Sramek et al.1 quoted under patients and methods, describes impedance derived stroke volume in a general, qualitative fashion, it is the quantitative definition of volume of electrically participating tissue (VEPT) in the equation that requires clarification.

In the work cited by Northridge and associates, the VEPT defined by Sramek et al.2 is determined in practice uniquely as a function of body height alone. However, as correctly stated by Northridge et al., VEPT as currently used is a constant derived from both body height and weight. NCCOM3 computes stroke volume from the Sramek equation corrected for body habitus.3 This modified equation is now generally cited as the Sramek-Bernstein equation,4 which is the one, apparently, used in this study.

WILLIAM C. SHOEMAKER
Editor, Critical Care Medicine,
251 E Imperial Highway, Suite 480,
Fullerton, CA 92665, USA

Non-invasive determination of cardiac output by Doppler echocardiography and electrical bioimpedance

Br Heart J 1990 64: 347
doi: 10.1136/hrt.64.5.347-a

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://heart.bmj.com/content/64/5/347.1.citation

Email alerting service
These include:
Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

Notes

To request permissions go to:
http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions

To order reprints go to:
http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/