Response to Dr. Sani's letter to the editor

Masahiko Harada¹ · Satoshi Tabako¹

Received: 4 October 2016 / Accepted: 4 October 2016 / Published online: 17 October 2016
© Japanese Society of Echocardiography 2016

We appreciate the interesting comments of Dr. Sani and his colleagues regarding our recent article [1]. We used a logistic regression model for data analysis. This method is usable in a clinical investigation designed to retrospectively detect factor(s) predicting a certain dichotomous variable [2]. The present study demonstrated that decreased early diastolic mitral annular velocity relates to the parameter reflecting carotid atherosclerosis. Therefore, the presence of severe carotid atherosclerosis may affect left ventricular (LV) diastolic function. We never show optimistic conclusions that early diastolic mitral annular velocity (e') is the only predictor of the presence of severe carotid atherosclerosis. For the patient with LV diastolic dysfunction, it is important that we pay more attention to

the presence of generalized atherosclerosis. Carotid ultrasonography is useful in assessing the degree of generalized atherosclerosis. We should also try to the prevention of cardiovascular disease for those patients.

Conflict of interest Masahiko Harada and Satoshi Tabako declare that they have no conflict of interest.

References

1. Harada M, Tabako S. Carotid atherosclerosis is associated with left ventricular diastolic function. *J Echocardiogr*. 2016;14:120–9.
2. Kleinbaum DG. Logistic regression: a self-learning text. New York: Springer; 1996.

✉ Masahiko Harada
mharada@med.toho-u.ac.jp

¹ Department of Clinical Functional Physiology, Toho University Medical Center Omori Hospital, Tokyo, Japan