In Reply

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Dear Editor,

We appreciate the comments of Dr. Kardos on our article [1]. We agree with Dr. Kardos that scan delay times of 60 and 70 s are not applicable for older patients. As we described in Introduction of our article, a previous study on contrast-enhanced CT (CE-CT) for the Fontan circuit recommended a 3-min-delay scan [2]. However, the purpose of our study was to search an optimal scan delay time for small pediatric patients who have a rapid circulation time and may not need a late scan time; therefore, the title of our article included “for young patients” [3]. Our study revealed an optimal delay time (60 or 70 s) for small children with the Fontan circulation and did not focus on older patients.

Kardos [1] also suggested a dual bolus injection technique with single acquisition, which had been reported by Thomas et al. [4]. We also considered the dual bolus injection technique which might be useful for patients with the Fontan circuit as described in Discussion of our paper [3]. Some articles also suggested the other protocols for the Fontan circuit. To our knowledge, however, there are only a few studies presenting accumulated clinical data on CE-CT for the Fontan circuit. We considered it an issue to be investigated. We look forward to seeing the results of such investigation.

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Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest The other authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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