June 18, 2014

Journal of Visualized Experiments (JOVE)

1 Alewife Center, Suite 200

Cambridge MA, 02140

Tel: 617.945.9051

Fax: 866.381.2236

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for considering our work for publication.

Our team has developed a unique method of heterotopically transplanting heart/single-lung grafts into the abdomens of recipient rats. We have made important modifications to the donor and recipient operations, as well as to the myocardial protection protocol. Furthermore, our model provides a physiologic base for studying many unique aspects of heterotopic heart-lung transplant, not the least of which is the capacity for direct *in vivo* cardiac functional assessment. Our model is described at length in the manuscript.

Mark J. Kearns and Yingjin Wang performed all technical aspects of the work. Mark J. Kearns wrote the manuscript. John H. Boyd is Mark’s PhD supervisor and together, they developed the model, and its applications, described in the manuscript.

I have been in contact with Nandita Singh throughout the submission process.

In the online electronic submission I have provided the names of 6 potential reviewers, and no opposing reviewers:

Dr. Sam Lichtenstein, [SLichtenstein@providencehealth.bc.ca](mailto:SLichtenstein@providencehealth.bc.ca)

Dr. Bruce McManus, [Bruce.McManus@hli.ubc.ca](mailto:Bruce.McManus@hli.ubc.ca)

Dr. Sheldon Magder, [sheldon.magder@muhc.mcgill.ca](mailto:sheldon.magder@muhc.mcgill.ca)

Dr. Zhihai Peng, [pengzhihai@sjtu.edu.cn](mailto:pengzhihai@sjtu.edu.cn)

Dr. Yi Ma, [anhuimayi2002@163.com](mailto:anhuimayi2002@163.com)

Dr. Dominik Wiedemann, [dominik.wiedemann@i-med.ac.at](mailto:dominik.wiedemann@i-med.ac.at)

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Kearns, MD PhD Candidate

Research Fellow, UBC Clinician Investigator Program

Cardiac Surgery, PGY-V

UBC James Hogg Research Centre

St. Paul’s Hospital

Vancouver, BC

Canada