Authors reply to “IABP plus ECMO—is one and one more than two?”

We thank Nuding and Werdan for their interest in our study. We respectfully disagree with their comment that it is unknown if IABP combined with VA-ECMO improves macro- and microcirculation more than VA-ECMO alone. Recent studies showed that IABP combined with VA-ECMO improved macro- and microcirculation, compared with VA-ECMO alone (1-3). According to our results and recent studies, IABP combined with VA-ECMO was theoretically and clinically more effective than VA-ECMO alone. We agree with Nuding and Werdan's comment that randomized control trial with the endpoint “survival” is required to evaluate the effect of IABP combined with VA-ECMO. This may be true, and we hope they will do it themselves.

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None.

Footnote

Conflicts of Interest: The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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