

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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M. T. Miranda

## Reply

Dear Sir,  
we would like to answer the letter sent by Lemke and Reineke about the interpretation of the results published in the paper entitled: Antioxidant-related enzymes in myocardial zones and human pericardial fluid in relation to the cause of death published by Ramos et al. *Int J Legal Med* (1997) 110: 1–4.

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They basically made wrong interpretations from our results and they deduced conclusions that we had not mentioned in our paper.

Number of cases included into the group of cardiac cause of death are 7 and not 5 as they mentioned. In order to reproduce the statistical analysis (ANOVA I and ANOVA II analyses of variance for repeated measures) of the results presented in Table 1, they need the original data from each case, that we will provide after the editor supervision. Statistical differences between the three myocardial zones were found for glutathione peroxidase and superoxide dismutase activities but no differences between groups of causes of death were detected. In both the figure and the text there are enough data to get to the correct conclusions we obtained. The authors of the Letter to the Editor performed a two-tailed unpaired t-test and then the Welch-test to compare differences between zones. This is a different approach to the problem because they compared differences in each zone between groups of cause of death. We completely disagree on the opinion presented by Lemke and Reineke in their *Letter to the Editor* after a wrong lecture of our results.