

**Supplementary Figure 1.** Four Forest plots illustrating the hazard ratios and their 95% confidence intervals obtained from the four multivariable Cox proportional hazards analysis models. The circle represents the estimate of the hazard ratio and the horizontal bars extend over the 95% confidence intervals of the estimate. Models include the treatment effect (pimobendan versus placebo), the value of the echocardiographic variable at baseline and the effect of a change in that variable from baseline to day 35. The echocardiographic variables analysed are: a) fractional shortening, b) normalised left ventricular internal diameter in diastole, c) left atrial to aortic ratio and d) normalised left ventricular internal diameter in systole. Abbreviations;  $\Delta$ , Change in; FS%, Fractional Shortening; LA/Ao, Left Atrial to Aortic root ratio; LVIDDN, Normalised Left Ventricular Internal Diameter in Diastole; LVIDSN, Normalised Left Ventricular Internal Diameter in Systole