Reviewer's report

Title: Risk of fractures in patients with multiple sclerosis: record-linkage study.

Version: 1 Date: 5 September 2012

Reviewer: Chrissa Sioka

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: None

Minor Essential Revisions

Introduction, first paragraph: 'On the basis of strong......disease", I suggest to delete it since it is not relative to the manuscript findings.

Introduction, second paragraph: "Osteoporosis....disability". I recommend to tone down the evidence for the etiology of osteoporosis in MS patients since it appears a complex issue. I suggest change it to "Osteoporosis occurs more frequently among patients with MS, possibly as a result of immobility, imbalance, progressive disability or other undetermined yet factors". If you like you could mention in a few sentences evidence for contribution or not of vitamin D metabolism and steroids in this condition.

Discussion, first paragraph. You may need to discuss a little more the immobility and osteoporosis, and relation of disability scores in other studies and osteoporosis. In addition, according to the present study the increased risk of fractures before and after the first year following MS admission may indicate that not only steroids are unlikely a major contributor but that also degree of disability since during the early stages of the disease disability is usually limited. Similar results have been noted in other studies that degree of disability scale scores may not be a major factor for osteoporosis.

Discretionary Revisions: None

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'