Reviewer’s report

Title: Nystagmus as an early ocular alteration in Machado-Joseph disease (MJD/SCA3)

Version: 2 Date: 30 December 2013

Reviewer: Hee Tae Kim

Reviewer’s report:

1. Author found that nystagmus in SCA3 with presymptomatic patients should be considered as early ocular manifestation. However they didn’t show additional ocular findings in cerebellar disease (such as ocular dysmetria, poor pursuit etc). In addition to nystagmus other ocular findings should be investigated in this study.

2. Author should describe full demographic data.

3. Regarding the nystagmus, author should fully describe other signs (cerebellar signs, gait ataxia, other oculomotor signs etc), but author used only ICARS subscore for description of nystagmus.

4. Not sufficient explanation of limitation in this study was defined.

-Major compulsory Revisions.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.