Reviewer's report

Title: Low bone mineral density is related to atherosclerosis in postmenopausal women

Version: 1 Date: 18 February 2009

Reviewer: Mohammed Ikram Khatkhatay

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Comments:
The aim of this cross-sectional study is to assess the relation between BMD and artery intima media thickness (IMT) in seventy-two apparently healthy postmenopausal Moroccan women. Although sample size is considerably low, the study is contributing significantly towards understanding the relationship between BMD and atherosclerosis. The study is well planned with results evaluated with relevant statistical tests. However, there are many typographical errors and language needs to be checked. The writing is thus not acceptable in the present format. The comments are:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
1. The study is carried out in a relatively small sample size involving a specific group of women from a country. The title, therefore, should include ‘…..postmenopausal Moroccan women’
2. In ‘Introduction’ section, (line 10), word uncertain should be replaced with ‘unclear’.
3. Was the osteoporosis diagnostic criteria based on BMD measurements was previously established or it was adopted from the machine based criteria? The statements on page 4 and page 6 should be explained. How many of women had osteopenia?
4. The description about clinical parameters/chemicals/kits etc should be clubbed according to their source of procurements.
5. In case of clinical parameters, the inter-assay CV of QC pools should be indicated.

Discretionary Revisions:
1. In results authors should also give mean values of all parameters after splitting them in to osteoporotic and non-osteoporotic.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field