Reviewer’s report

Title: Serum VEGF levels are related to the presence of Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension in Systemic Sclerosis

Version: 3 Date: 13 February 2009

Reviewer: Janet Pope

Reviewer’s report:

The revised paper is better. You still need to say that no one had a R heart cath, so they are not talking about PAH, (ex on pg 13 they say PH was found in 20 pts, but they should say, 20 pts had an estimated elevation of PA ?systolic pressure of greater than or equal to 35. Also, one statement on why so many SSc patients had elevated pressures on echo needs to be said as the proportion with abnomral echos is higher than any other study. Were patients selected for PAH in any way or selected for dyspnea?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests

Janet Pope