Reviewer's report

Title: Risk factors of osteoporosis in healthy Moroccan men.

Version: 2 Date: 14 March 2010

Reviewer: Jose Rodriguez-Portales

Reviewer's report:

In this manuscript the authors explore the relationship between bone density (response variable) and several other explanatory variables in a sample of Moroccan men. The aim is to document if for Moroccan men determinants of low bone mass differ from those published for other populations.

A set of putative explanatory variables was selected and evaluated in the sample population. After adequate statistical processing, three variables were found to be associated with osteoporosis: ageing, a lower body mass index, and low physical activity.

The methods are appropriate and well described. The data is sound and well reported. The discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data. The limitations of the work are clearly stated. The authors acknowledge previous work upon which they are building, and the writing is acceptable.

Discretionary Revisions:

An explanation for why were these putative risk factors chosen and not others such as vitamin D or gonadal status, or alternatively, if vitamin D deficiency or hypogonadism were exclusion criteria.

Minor Essential Revisions:

On page 5, last paragraph on Subjects, the numbers do not add up. 678 men screened, 186 excluded, leaves 492 men in the study instead of 592. Please review these numbers, since the whole paper reports 592 subjects in the study.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

On Table 4, low physical activity does not show statistically significant association with osteoporosis. The conclusions state that low physical activity is associated with osteoporosis.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.