Author's response to reviews

Title: Profile and course of early Rheumatoid Arthritis in Morocco. A two-year follow-up study.

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Replies to the BMC Series Editorial Production Team:
We would like to thank you for your comments which help us to improve the quality of the manuscript.

Below are the answers to each specific point.

Author list: the list of authors in the manuscript should be written exactly as they are in the submission system, both in style and order. The preferred style is "First name Initial Last name" (e.g. Joe F Bloggs)
List of authors is now written as recommended

Abstract: This should be identical in the manuscript and the submission system
We are sorry for this. This version contains identical abstract both in the manuscript and in the submission system

References: Please make sure references are cited in numerical order. We notice references 17, 27 and 28 are not cited within the main text and references 20, 30 and 31 are cited out of order. Please make sure references continue to be cited in numerical order once corrections have been made.
We have corrected references as recommended.

Authors' contributions: Please place the Authors' contributions section towards the end of the manuscript text, directly preceding the Acknowledgements. Please use the following format as an example, including using initials to refer to each
author's contribution: AB carried out the molecular genetic studies, participated in the sequence alignment and drafted the manuscript. JY carried out the immunoassays. MT participated in the sequence alignment. ES participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. FG conceived of the study, and participated in its design and coordination. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

We have added (as recommended) in this revised version a specific paragraph on authors' contributions as following:

Authors' contributions

KB, NHH and MD conceived the study and supervised its design and execution.
FB, BB, AB and LB were involved in sample collection.
HR, RA, BB and LB and did data management and statistical analyses.
OA and ME carried out HLA typing.
HR wrote the paper with input from all investigators.
All authors were involved in drafting manuscript and revising it for critically important content. All authors have read and approved the final manuscript.

Minor revisions (we can make these changes for you, although it will speed up publication of your manuscript if you do them while making the major changes above)

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