Reviewer's report

Title: Changes in the expression of aromatase, estrogen receptor alpha and beta in mandibular condylar cartilage of rats induced by disordered occlusion

Version: 1 Date: 7 March 2012

Reviewer: sunil wadhwa

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This is an interesting article in which they found sex differences for collagen type 2 and aggrecan expression within the TMJ to altered loading rodent model. Similar to what the authors found, we found similar sex differences in the expression of collagen type 2 in the TMJ in decreased occlusal loading model (Chen, Calcified Tissue International 2011).

Major Compulsory revisions
1. It is difficult to make any conclusions of sex differences in hypertrophic layer without immunohistochemistry and/or gene expression for Collagen type 10.
2. The result section needs to be re-written. Cannot follow the treatment, time and sex arguments.
3. First paragraph of the discussion is not needed because it is just a repetition of the results section.
4. Is this really a model of degeneration particularly the degeneration that is seen during osteoarthritis?

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