Reviewer's report

Title: A systematic review of the etiopathogenesis of Kienbock's disease and a critical appraisal of its recognition as an occupational disease

Version: 1 Date: 27 May 2012

Reviewer: David Ring

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My only comment would be to hypothesize in the Discussion section that the ideas here apply generally to most diseases.

Etiology is one of the most difficult things to establish and allowing something to be labelled work-related has very important negative consequences.

The best approach for the worker and society is to assume that a disease is not related to work until soundly proved otherwise. History is clear that the concept that work can harm your body has done far more harm than good and we need to protect people from these harmful ideas. This goes beyond work to things like power lines and cancer and silicone breast implants and systemic illness.

Human illness behavior mandates that we take great care with our illness concepts.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.