Reviewer's report

Title: Feasibility of a Standardized Ultrasound Examination in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis: A Quality Improvement among Rheumatologists Cohort

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Reviewer: Alberto S Tagliafico

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Table 1 has no reference to the text and it is difficult to be understood

Introduction

"The aim of the present prospective study was to evaluate the ability to obtain standardized images of high quality in a US training program". Considering this purpose, I don't understand the use of time as outcome measure.

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"ten identical ultrasound machines were available, thus 10 rheumatological centres could be included in the study." I don't understand the rationale for this criteria. Only "GE" centers can be included? Figure one contradicts this statement. It is not clear who participated.

Discussion

The Authors seem to minimize the role of musculoskeletal and rheumatological ultrasound.

It seems that the use of US is "so easy". This is not correspondent to clinical practice, in my opinion.

" pitfall of US operator dependency may be avoided with a short focused training program": I, as a radiologists, strongly disagree with this phrase. If a short "focused training program" is sufficient to avoid pitfalls, every radiologist (an expert of medical imaging) would be able to perform a high-level musculoskeletal ultrasound.

Although the topic of the article is a "standardized" exam, this kind of message is not acceptable.

Probable lack of US and imaging background has been demonstrated " the only variable to be adjusted was the focus".

Figure 2 is not clear.

This paper represent a too small advance to publish
**Level of interest:** An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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