Reviewer’s report

Title: Prophylactic Antibiotic Regimens In Tumor Surgery (PARITY) Survey

Version: 2 Date: 27 October 2011

Reviewer: Toshihiro Akisue

Reviewer’s report:

This manuscript presents a cross-sectional survey study to elucidate current practice and problems in the prescription of prophylactic antibiotics for the patients who underwent a mega-prosthesis reconstruction after excision of malignant musculoskeletal tumor. The authors developed a questionnaire about prophylactic antibiotics in tumor prosthesis surgery and surveyed all active members of the MSTS and all members of the CANOOS via web-based methods. The authors found four key findings noted in the Discussion. The four key findings are not impressive, but likely to be imaged by musculoskeletal oncologists in their practical work. The current study is unique to explore the current practice and problems in the prescription of prophylactic antibiotics in tumor prosthesis surgery, to encourage musculoskeletal oncologists to conduct further clinical trials on prophylactic antibiotics. However, the discussion is very poor and redundant description of the results. Therefore, I do not think that the current manuscript is suitable for publication in BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders. Major compulsory revisions are essential before acceptance.

Specific comments:

1. Page 5
Specific questions (section A-D) should be noted in the methods

2. Page 9
Description about dose of Cephalosporin is ambiguous. Per day or per one administration?

3. Page 10
The discussion is very poor and redundant description of the results. The authors should discuss more specific strategy to propose a further study for regimens of prophylactic antibiotics in tumor prosthesis surgery, compared with the studies to define standard guidelines for prophylactic antibiotics as indicated by AAOS.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the
statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.