Reviewer's report

Title: Safety and efficacy of duloxetine treatment in older and younger patients with osteoarthritis knee pain: a post hoc, subgroup analysis of two randomized, placebo-controlled trials

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Reviewer: Xavier Chevalier

Reviewer's report:

The authors report a post-hoc analysis of safety and efficacy of duloxetine in younger and older patients.
This is a relevant question since limitation of duloxetine may be related to adverse events especially in older patients. This post-hoc analysis did not conclude to an increase risk of AE in older population with knee OA though the rate of discontinuation was increased in this sub group.
Otherwise, dizziness was increased in younger patients. There was no difference in terms of efficacy and no advantage in increasing the dose up to 120 mg per day.

Major Compulsory Revisions
I have two major concerns
1) The older population mean age is 72. It will be interesting in this post-hoc analysis to look in the group of patient with an age > 75 years.
2) It is not made clear whether where is a dose related effect on the percentage of AE and SAE between the 60 mg and the 120 mg dose.

Otherwise the manuscript is clear, concise and well written.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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