Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of Metabolic Syndrome in patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis and its determinants

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Version: 2 Date: 3 October 2012

Author’s response to reviews: see over
Cover letter

Editor: BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders
19 September 2012
Dear Professor Timothy Shipley


Kindly consider our manuscript for publication in your journal.
This article is the first case control study in North Africa that aimed to assess the frequency of metabolic syndrome (MetS) in patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis. Metabolic syndrome (MetS) and Inflammation are intimately linked. Inflammatory biomarkers are frequently elevated in people with MetS and, conversely, the prevalence of MetS is higher in patients with chronic inflammatory rheumatic diseases. MetS is a cluster of classical cardiovascular risk factors, including hypertension, obesity, glucose intolerance, and dyslipidaemia. Moreover, CVD has turned out to be one of the most important causes of death in RA patients. Hence, we investigated the prevalence of MetS in RA and healthy controls and its determinants.
Our results highlight the frequency of this syndrome in RA, and the challenge to effectively control disease activity and reduce the use of glucocorticoids.
We believe these findings are of importance to the practicing rheumatologist, particularly in resource-constrained settings.
Conflicts of interest: None
Yours sincerely