Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 2 Date: 13 December 2012

Reviewer: SAEIDEH MAZLOOMZADEH

Reviewer’s report:

Dr Rostom and colleagues described the frequency of metabolic syndrome in RA patients and also evaluated the association between MetS and RA. The result of this study is valuable because it is the first study from Morocco.

Major compulsory revisions

The authors have shown that the frequency of the MetS in RA patients was significantly higher compared to controls and the presence of MetS in patients with RA was associated with a higher systemic inflammatory marker, and glucocorticoids use. They should clearly describe the novelty of their study and its difference with previous studies.

Minor essential revisions

Introduction

1. Paragraph 3, lines 20-23, “Several studies have examined… in study populations” should be referenced.

Material and Methods

1. Please explain why the number of cases and controls are different?

2. Please describe the setting, locations and period of recruitment of cases and controls.

3. Please provide the eligibility criteria for cases and controls.

Results

1. The tables should be numbered correctly.

2. Please provide which factors were included in the multivariate analysis or adjusted for?

Discussion

1. This is a case-control study not a cross-sectional? Please correct it.
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.