Reviewer's report

Title: Reference intervals of serum hyaluronic acid corresponding to the radiographic severity of knee osteoarthritis in women

Version: 3 Date: 21 September 2012

Reviewer: Philip Conaghan

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This study compares serum levels of hyaluronic acid with KL grade of osteoarthritis in a single knee in a modest-sized cohort of women.

Unfortunately the major limitation of this work, which is mentioned by the authors in the second last paragraph of the Discussion, is that sHA reflects total body burden of OA (and probably rheumatoid arthritis too, as it is a synovial activation marker) and only data from one joint was captured for this study. This makes any exploration of relationships with a single joint uninterpretable. This is a major problem for many papers in the OA biomarker field.

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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