Reviewer’s report

Title: Safety of infusing rituximab at a more rapid rate in patients with rheumatoid arthritis: Results from the RATE-RA study

Version: 2
Date: 4 March 2014

Reviewer: Carlo Perricone

Reviewer’s report:

I enjoyed very much the paper by Prifthard and colleagues who faced an interesting as well as important aspect in the management of patients treated with RTX in RA.

Minor changes are required.

1. detailed information on methylprednisolone dosage, antihistaminic and acetaminophen are required.
2. Do authors have any data on mean prednisone dose as terapia di fondo?
Concerning this please refer to:

Rituximab infusion-related adverse event rates are lower in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus than in those with rheumatoid arthritis.

Rituximab treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus in controlled trials and in clinical practice: Two sides of the same coin.
Conti F, Perricone C, Ceccarelli F, Valesini G.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

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