Reviewer's report

Title: Incidence, histopathologic analysis and distribution of tumors of the hand

Version: 2  Date: 27 November 2013

Reviewer: Reinhard Schnettler

Reviewer's report:

The authors present a retrospective study of bone tumors of the hand including radiologic and histopathologic findings of an impressive cohort. Data from 631 patients clearly demonstrate the distribution of primary tumors of the hand and their typical radiologic and histologic appearance. The retrospective nature of the study is a conceivable limit, however the large number of patients, which cannot be found in the literature up to date, is a major plus and provides precise epidemiologic data. The different entities of the most important tumors are well presented in histologic and radiologic images. Even more interesting is the statistic workup of the age dependent incidence and the differing anatomic location in the skeleton of the hand. This dataset is definitely useful to the clinician dealing with bony lesions of the hand. Therefore I recommend to accept the manuscript, if the authors properly address the following comments:

Minor Essential Revision
1.) A native speaker should correct grammar and style flaws of the manuscript.
2.) Introduction. The first sentence is misunderstanding. “of bone or of origin “…
3.) Introduction. Typo in the last passage: “analysis”
4.) Methods. Missing word in the second passage: “specimen were embedded”
5.) Results: The inclusion criteria should be defined more precisely.
6.) Results: Typo in the second passage: “clearly states”…
7.) Discussion: The last sentence of the second passage is misunderstanding. Change “delivered”.
8.) Conclusion: Typo in the last sentence: “analysis”

Level of interest: An exceptional article

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.