Reviewer's report

Title: Acute Cell Viability and Nitric Oxide Release in Lateral Menisci Following Closed-Joint Knee Injury in a Lapine Model of Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis

Version: 2 Date: 19 April 2014

Reviewer: Simo Saarakkala

Reviewer's report:

Authors have done a nice work for revising their manuscript. Especially, Discussion is now very good as it clearly addresses the limitations of the study. Authors have also changed statistical comparisons of cell viability from two-way ANOVA to paired t-test. They also used only descriptive statistics for NO data, which is correct.

MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS:

All the other issues raised in my report have been now nicely taken into account, and otherwise the manuscript can be recommended for publication, but unfortunately I still think that the choice of new statistical test is wrong. Paired t-test is also parametric test (like ANOVA) and cannot be used here as there are limited number of samples and the normal distribution cannot be assumed. Authors should select a non-parametric statistical test: in this case I believe the correct test should be Wilcoxon signed-rank test. Authors may consult a biostatistician to verify this.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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.