Reviewer's report

Title: Diabetes is not a risk factor for the carpal tunnel syndrome

Version: 2 Date: 8 May 2014

Reviewer: Jeferson Becker

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Firstly, there are studies that question DM as a risk factor (RF) for CTS (for example, Becker, 2002). This should be better addressed in the introduction.

The biggest problem, however, is in the choice of control group. This one is inappropriate because HNP, especially lumbosacral, is associated with obesity and DM, and thus, this control group is not ideal for measuring risk factors for CTS. It would be more appropriate to compare with a control group without neuromuscular disorders and with a normal neurophysiological assessment, or alternatively, with diverse neuromuscular diseases, collected randomly and consecutively. Another possibility would be to say that DM is not a RF when compared with HNP, although this would weaken the strength of the study.

Finally, I suggest other minor alterations:
- Line 66: adjust the prevalence for men and women and not just one number for both, since the female gender is an independent risk factor for CTS;
- Line 98: correct 'CTS en HNP';
- Line 136: better describe the ages, not putting only the means and confidence intervals;
- Line 138: 'was significantly higher'