Reviewer’s report

Title: The association between lean mass and bone mineral density in the high disease activity group of adult patients with juvenile idiopathic arthritis

Version: 1 Date: 9 September 2013

Reviewer: Jonathan Adachi

Reviewer’s report:

I think that the article is interesting and examines the relationship between BMC and muscle mass.

Minor essential revisions that should be answered..

1. Were the control patients supplemented with vitamin D and calcium? How long were the JIA subjects treated with vitamin D and calcium? What was the dose?
2. Was the selection of the control group a random selection of those who volunteered?
3. There is some need for editing. For instance in the abstract:
   a) delete “an” in the background sentence “adult patients with an active juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) untreated with tumor necrosis factor alpha inhibitors”
   b) “measures” should be “measured” in the sentence In patients with clinically active JIA (disease activity score 28, 6.36 ± 0.64, C reactive protein, 18.36 ± 16.95 mg/l), aBMD was reduced in all measures sites

There are other areas that would benefit from a copy editor.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'