Author's response to reviews

Title: Use of botulinum toxin-a for musculoskeletal pain in patients with whiplash associated disorders

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Dear Iratxe Puebla:
In replay to your letter of November 25th, I am writing to inform you that all reviewers’ comments and required changes have been made. As a result, there have been a number of changes in the manuscript with reference number: MS 7455469062203210.
In particular, please note that language corrections have been changed in order to be suitable for publication.
The final version of the manuscript has now been written and sent.
As you will see from the attached paper, I confirm the following points.
(Point-by-Point explanation)
1. Competing interest declaration. The company Allergan is the supplier of Botox(R) and won't be involved in any form in this study. I have not received any financial support or benefits in any form from a commercial party related directly or indirectly to the subject of this study protocol. I am grateful to people affiliated to this company the support in review the manuscript and make English corrections.
2. An inclusion criterion has been changed and subjects grade II WAD of QTF is included.
3. Study design, randomization, blinding and sample size calculation has been changed. In particular, please note that using power analysis and recently papers, a sample of 90 subjects per group are needed.
4. The reviewers indicate that we need to use a more precise quantifiable instrument to measurement of cervical range of movement and pressure. I will use for assessment of cervical range of movement the CROM(R) cervical range of motion instrument. It is a magnetic inclinometer device. Also, I will use a mechanical algometer (Pain test(R)).
5. We explain the use of surface EMG and the protocol in the study.
6. Follow-up: I will increase the follow-up period to 6-months in order to see the changes after treatment.
7. Finally, I explain in detail objectives, use and safety of Botox(R): indications, mechanism of action and, theoretical pharmacological rational of effect in WAD.
8. It was clarified the study procedures: patients screening, study phases, treatment and adverse events.
9. Assessment section has been change following reviewer's suggestion.

I hope this information has been helpful and remain at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Francisco J. Juan