Reviewer's report

Title: The association of BMI and knee pain among persons with radiographic knee osteoarthritis: A cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 16 September 2008

Reviewer: Max Reijman

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated the relation between BMI and knee pain among persons with radiographic knee OA in a cross-sectional study design.

Major Compulsory revisions:
The study population consisted of subjects with radiographic signs of knee OA, determined by the Kellgren & Lawrence criteria. (³ grade 2). As stated by the authors is knee pain related with radiographic severity. So the relation between knee pain status and BMI should also be adjusted for the severity of ROA of the knee.

Minor essential revisions:
The authors reported that there is a positive linear relationship between the 4 categories of BMI and pain. Did the authors test for linearity?
Footnote Table2: The adjusted odds ratio models should be: pain = bmi + age + gender (+ severity of ROA)
Figure 2 presented similar results as Table 2, so one can be deleted.

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

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'