Reviewer's report

**Title:** Brain Natriuretic Peptide Levels are Associated with Peripheral Arterial Disease in Type 2 Diabetic Patients

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 23 December 2013

**Reviewer:** Nikolaos Papanas

**Reviewer's report:**

This is an interesting study. The authors included an adequate patient series, carried out convincing analysis, and produced a coherent manuscript. The study limitations are honestly acknowledged.

Minor essential revisions:

1. Diabetes duration was not very long, and yet almost 30% of patients had PAD, suggesting that this is a very selected sample. Please comment and emphasise this selection more.

2. Was the potential effect of neuropathy examined? Please add a brief comment.

3. When summarising that BNP was index of PAD severity, the authors should bear in mind that this holds true to the inverse association with ABI but not with Fontaine’s classes, inasmuch as there was no difference between II and III categories.

4. Why were patients with Fontaine’s IV category excluded?

5. Please state the clinical implications in more detail.

**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:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.