Reviewer's report

Title: Prescribing patterns of glucosamine in an elderly population: A national cohort study

Version: 3 Date: 25 September 2013

Reviewer: Victor Kiri

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. Authors to provide the source of the statement "6% of individuals over 70 years were prescribed glucosamine in 2011" in the section "Results in the context of current literature"

2. I am not convinced the study highlighted there is little evidence to support the prescribing of glucosamine for the treatment of OA. The study did not explore this aspect and no such test was performed. Authors should therefore justify or delete the opening sentence in the first paragraph of the section "Future research directives" or provide the data to support the sentence.

3. Authors to remove the text "in Ireland" in the last but one sentence of the first paragraph in the section "Results in the context of current literature"

Discretionary Revisions:
The authors should acknowledge the possibility that some high risk patients may be prescribed glucosamine as preventive therapy in the closing sentences of the section "Strengths and weaknesses of the study".

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests