Reviewer's report

Title: Influence of Patient Characteristics on Perceived Risks and Willingness to Take a Proposed Anti-rheumatic Drug

Version: 1 Date: 19 February 2013

Reviewer: Suzanne Verstappen

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting manuscript looking at the influence of patient characteristics and willingness to take the proposed DMARDs/biologics.

Major Compulsory Revisions
- The mean disease duration was 13 years meaning that some patients with established disease may have received multiple DMARDs whereas patients with early RA may only have received one DMARD. It would be interesting to see if the models are similar when analyzing patients with early and patients with established disease separately.
- Approximately 10% of the data on RP and DMARD willingness was missing and missing scores were replaced with median values. Is this the best method to replace missing psychological scores? Would multiple imputation not be a better option although it is difficult to know which factors are the best to include in the imputation model.
- Page 10, the explained variance of the different models was only 13.5% and 12.7%. This should be discussed in more detail in the discussion section.
- From page 8 onwards, the results shown in the tables are summarized. It would be useful to describe the meaning of some of these findings in more detail.

Minor Essential Revisions
- Page 9, second paragraph last sentence, low-income should this be high income because it is the comparison group of the low-income patient group?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

None