Reviewer's report

Title: Physiopathology of intratendinous calcific deposition

Version: 1 Date: 19 April 2012

Reviewer: Ann Rosenthal

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions.

This is an interesting review of an understudied and poorly understood field.

It is poorly organized and the introduction, for example, could be shortened so that it just includes the first paragraph.

A section called clinical manifestations could include some of the information in the introduction as well as the ramifications of this process for prognosis.

The division of the paper into sections called "histology" and "basic science" is not clear, and it would be easier for the reader to understand if this part of the manuscript was divided into different theories of pathogenesis, e.g dystrophic calcification, chondrocyte metaplasia, etc....

We published a paper about transglutaminases and tendon in 2009, which should probably be included in your comprehensive reference section.


The section on drugs (pg 7, para 4) is not clearly related to the topic. However, if there is evidence that these drugs produce calcific tendonitis, please include these references.

It is also important to emphasize early on in this work that the large calcifications detectable on x-ray may only reflect a small percentage of the clinical incidences of calcification in tendon.

The section on SLRPs on page 7 contains contradictory material that should be reconciled by your interpretation of these works. You say in one sentence that SLRPs are increased in calcific tendinitis and in the same sentence that knocking out these proteoglycans produced exuberant calcification.

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.