Author’s response to reviews

Title: Old drugs, old problems: where do we stand in prediction of rheumatoid arthritis responsiveness to methotrexate and other synthetic DMARDs?

Authors:

Vasco Crispim Romão (vascoromao@gmail.com)
Helena Canhão (helenacanhao@gmail.com)
João Eurico Fonseca (jecfonseca@gmail.com)

Version: 3 Date: 17 December 2012

Author's response to reviews:

We have taken the editorial revisions into account and have altered the manuscript accordingly, as detailed below. We are sending two versions of the manuscript: one revised version with highlighted, tracked changes and one revised, final version of the manuscript, with accepted changes.

1. As suggested we have removed the summary of the review findings from the abstract, that had been introduced after the recommendations issued by referee
2. This has reduced the length of the abstract to 177 words, close to the
175-word limit proposed.

2. As proposed we have introduced a detailed legend of Table 1, including the definition of the several levels of evidence / grades of recommendation. We have also added a "Selected references" column on this table, that contains the most relevant references in which the recommendations were based in the paper in question. This, however, has significantly increased the number of references of the present article (already previously numerous), from 230 to 270.

Figure 1 had already a thorough description in the legend. As to tables 2,3 and 4, given that they are indeed summary tables of the findings reported in the text (as mentioned in the legend), we find it difficult to introduce further explanations (that are present throughout the text) without becoming repetitive and extensive as well as to include specific references, as we have previously exposed in the cover letter in the answer to comment 2 by Reviewer 2.