Reviewer’s report

Title: Prescription patterns and appropriateness of NSAID therapy according to gastrointestinal risk and cardiovascular history in patients with diagnoses of osteoarthritis.

Version: 1 Date: 3 February 2011

Reviewer: Michael Nurmohamed

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting manuscript that clearly demonstrates the lack of guidance adherence in Spain. This type of investigations is important in view of the large numbers of NSAIDs/COXIBs that are prescribed.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) Obviously guidelines differ from country to country, the FDA and EMEA have different recommendations but which guidelines are the prevailing ones in Spain?

2) I suggest to shorten the manuscript as presently there is too much redundancy.

3) There is accumulating evidence that naproxen carries the lowest cardiovascular risk of the NSAIDs/COXIBs. Hence, the distribution of naproxen vs the other NSAIDs might differ considering baseline cardiovascular risk. Please incorporate these data

4) In order to be timely I feel it is necessary to incorporate a few sentences about the recent network-meta-analysis of Trelle et al.

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

Yes,

During the last five years, I have been on (ad hoc) advisory boards and/or received lecture fees and/or my the institution where I am employed received unrestricted grants and/or I received partial sponsoring for congress attendance from:

Pfizer, Wyeth, MSD, Scheringh-Plough, Novartis, UCB, Abbott, Roche and BMS