Reviewer’s report

Title: The Rheumatoid foot: A Systematic Literature Review Of Patient Reported Outcome Measures

Version: 1 Date: 27 April 2010

Reviewer: Heidi Siddle

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
The PRISMA statement (Moher et al 2009, BMJ and Liberati et al 2009 BMJ) has a checklist of items for authors when reporting systematic reviews, which it is recommended that the current authors check their systematic review against. In addition the Equator network recommends that the PRISMA flow diagram is included in submissions of systematic reviews to map out the number of records identified, included and excluded, and the reasons for exclusions. It is recommended that the authors include a flow diagram. It is available from the following website by clicking on PRISMA Flow Diagram and PRISMA checklist. http://www.equator-network.org/resource-centre/library-of-health-research-reporting/

Minor Essential Revisions
The title ‘The Rheumatoid foot’ and the term ‘RA foot’ within the text (pages 5, 6, 15, 19) should not be used as these terms have not been defined; RA is a complex disease that manifests itself in the foot in many different ways. Therefore it is recommended that the authors use ‘the foot in patients with rheumatoid arthritis’ or ‘the foot in RA’.

Discretionary Revisions
The literature review of foot pathology affecting patients with RA in the ‘background’ section could contain more relevant, up to date and robust references that are available to support the authors comments.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.