Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical and Radiological Features and Skeletal Sequelae in Childhood Intra-/juxta-articular Versus Extra-articular Osteoid Osteoma

Version: 2 Date: 13 October 2014

Reviewer: Sameer Naranje

Reviewer's report:

First of all, I would like to congratulate authors of this study for putting up this excellent study and well written manuscript regarding this clinically significant condition in pediatric population.

Osteoid osteomas are indeed rare tumors which may have varied presentations. This paper adds an important information regarding the diagnostic difficulties for this condition.

However there are certain major changes that are needed before this paper can be accepted for publication.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. In this paper authors mention that juxta/intrararticular osteoid osteomas had diagnostic delays more than their counterparts. In a routine clinical settings, a child with joint pain should be evaluated more aggressively with advanced imaging, blood work etc as septic arthritis is a major differential diagnosis. This should easily lead to more advance imaging like MRI, CT scan that should lead to early diagnosis of osteoid osteomas. So more insight into use of diagnostic modalities is needed. In the paper, there is no mention about which modality was used to diagnose (MRI/CT scan/bone scan) these lesions for all the patients. A tabular information about diagnostic studies for the two different groups should be added (how many had MRIs, CT scans, bone scans etc).

2. Table 2 is not very informative as regards to conclusions and results and may be deleted. Instead a table summarizing results section (paragraph 1 and 2) would be more informative and should be included so that readers can easily glance to see the contrasts in the groups.

3. Though authors have found statistically significant results the study seems to be weak because of small numbers of cases. A milder conclusion would be more appropriate. (Use of words like 'we suggest that' instead of 'we conclude that')

Thanks,

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests' below.