Reviewer's report

**Title:** Patient Centered Psoriatic Arthritis (PsA) Activity Assessment by the Stockerau Activity Score for Psoriatic Arthritis (SASPA)

**Version:** 3  
**Date:** 4 October 2014

**Reviewer:** Vinod Chandran

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors have developed a tool for assessment of disease activity in PsA which they have called the SASPA by modifying the RADAI-5 developed for RA. My comments and suggestions are-

**Major Compulsory Revisions**

1. Methods: the authors developed the prototype questionnaire in 97 (or is it 98?) patients. Subsequently the SASPA was administered to 152 patients. The presentation of the methods and results is not clear. I would suggest that the statistical evaluation of the two questionnaires be presented separately both in the methods and results section.

2. Please provide the Cronbach's alpha values for internal consistency, test-retest reliability, criterion and construct validity, and sensitivity to change in separate sections.

3. New measures for disease activity such as PASDAS, GRACE and CPDAI have been recently developed. The manuscript is completely silent on this. How did the SASPA function vis-a-vis these newer measures?

4. Tables have not been provided, although mentioned in text.

5. Reference 8 is not cited in text.

6. If 152 PsA patients completed the questionnaires how did the investigators obtain 779 completed questionnaires?

7. Results line 1- Cronbach's alpha is better described as a measure of internal consistency.

8. Please explain how the coefficient of variation is used to interpret redundancy

9. The correlation coefficients between SASPA and is poor-moderate although significant. This could be commented upon.

10. The discussion on the shortcomings of the study is cursory. Please explain how increased self-efficacy influences patient's self-assessment.

11. References are not consistently formatted

**Minor Essential Revisions**

1. The figures need more explanation and proper labeling of the axes.

2. Page 5 line 12- change "How active to..." to "How active do...."
**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**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