Author's response to reviews

Title: Beyond the assessment of radiological progression in rheumatoid arthritis - The imaging of structural integrity

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Ethical Approval

Multicenter studies need to have received ethical approval from the ethical review board of each individual center. We would ask that you include the full names of all the review boards that approved your study in each individual center.

This is an non-interventional study with an retrospective analysis of pre-existing data in different centers in Germany. The Ethics Committee (EC) of the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena (number 2714-12/09 responsible for the clinical lead (Prof. P. Oelzner) approved the study centrally. An additional EC evaluation of other study centers is not mandated due to the non-interventional character of the study. All patients received oral and written information prior to inclusion, and consented to participate by signing the informed-consent document. Based on your very important comments, we clarified the ethical statement in the section methods.

See page 4, paragraph 2.

Figure

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