Reviewer’s report

Title: Can hybrid hyaluronic acid represent a valid approach to treat rizoarthrosis? A retrospective comparative study

Version: 0 Date: 12 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Hilde Hammer

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well written manuscript exploring the differences in efficacy of hybrid HA and triamcinolone acetate on several clinical outcomes in patients with TMJ OA. Even if it was a retrospective study, the groups were well balanced for most variables, and especially for those of importance. Results from several other studies with use of HA and steroids are included, giving an overview of the literature. In spite being a retrospective study, the results indicate a potential role for this new HA formulation, and further RCTs should be performed to verify the efficacy of this medication in hand OA.

Comments

1. Please use either kDa or Da, instead of as now, using both.

2. From the method section: "After palpating the TMC joint space, laterally to the abductor pollicis longus tendon,..." Please make a clearer definition of where is "lateral of" this tendon.

3. The limitations of this being a retrospective study are discussed. However, it should be included whether there were any reasons for why a patient was treated with the one or the other medication. Doctor's preference? Clinical experience by the doctor? Patient characteristics? Was it systematically some doctors choosing one type? If so, what was the clinical experience performing i.a. injections? It is of major importance to know whether there were some reasons for the choice of either of the medications, since this may influence the result.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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