Reviewer’s report

Title: Establishment of Rat Ankle Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis Model Induced by Malleolus Fracture

Version: 0 Date: 27 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Michelle Casper

Reviewer's report:

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In general this is a well written, concise and easy to understand/follow manuscript. There are a few typos but nothing major.

Minor points:

In the background: there should be some justification as to why you have chosen the contralateral ankle as a control. Please make a reference to previous studies that have demonstrated this and why it was not necessary to have either a sham operation control or an unoperated animal control.

In the methods: at the end of the section entitled experimental animals please indicate whether or not either group received any special care during the course of the experiment and whether or not any animals were excluded. Also please move the sentence "Rats were humanely sacrificed......for ELISA and qPCR" (lines 150-152) from the Histologic evaluations section to the end of this section.

For the immunohistochemistry section please indicate whether or not these two independent observers were also blinded.

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.

Yes

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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