Author’s response to reviews

Title: Plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 concentrations and bone mineral density in postmenopausal women with type 2 diabetes mellitus

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POINT TO POINT REPOSTSE TO REVIEWERS

REVIEWER No1

1. The abstract and conclusion section have been rewritten according to your comments. In Abstract in Conclusion section sentence is added „Obviously, metabolic parameters may affect both BMD and PAI-levels, and association of PAI-1 and BMD could be indirect. “Also, one sentence is added in Conclusion: „In conclusion PAI-1 appears to be a marker of metabolic status that correlates with measures of bone density and turnover; whether it is itself an agent that affects bone would need to be investigated in further studies.”

2. Hip BMD positively correlated with PAI activity and this was corrected in the text, lines 182-3: “If we look at bone markers in the multiple regression analysis after adjusting for age and menopause duration, negative association of pyrilinks and PAI-1 was present. In addition, hip BMD positively correlated with PAI-1 activity”. Also, insulin correlated positively with PAI-1 and this was corrected in Supplement Table 2., model VI.

3. In Discussion, sentence in former line 223 has been changed: “However, insulin levels were not significantly lower in diabetic patients with osteoporosis, possibly due to a relatively small number of subjects.” Former lines 234-8 (now 256-267) have also been changed according your comments: “These results suggest that PAI-1 correlated primarily with metabolic parameters such as hyperinsulinemia, hypertriglyceridemia, obesity and adipose distribution while association of PAI-1 and BMD and bone turnover was weaker. After
adjustment for age and BMI, the association between PAI and both lumbar BMD and hip BMD was no longer significant suggesting that metabolic parameters may affect both BMD and PAI-levels. Therefore, the association of PAI-1 and L-BMD could be only indirect.”

4. The conclusion section has been rewritten according to your comment: „In conclusion PAI-1 appears to be a marker of metabolic status that correlates with measures of bone density and turnover; whether it is itself an agent that affects bone would need to be investigated in further studies.“

5. Line 75 Suppl Table 1 spelling error corrected.

REVIEWER No 2.

1. The fracture risk issue has been inserted in a discussion section (study limitations): “Furthermore, this article does not assess fracture risk which is especially important in diabetic patients who presumably have lower quality of bone in spite of higher BMD as was stated previously”.