Reviewer’s report

Title: TYPE 2 DIABETES AFFECTS BONE CELLS PRECURSORS AND BONE TURNOVER

Version: 0 Date: 19 Mar 2018

Reviewer: Luca D’Onofrio

Reviewer's report:

The study conducted by Sassi et al aimed to investigate bone metabolism in patients with diabetes compared to matched controls. The study is well conducted and gather together clinical, instrumental and in vivo data, and the results are very interesting. However the manuscript need some minor revision.

MINOR REVISION:

Methods

1) The presence of bone fracture was investigated and has been taken into account as exclusion criteria?

2) Can you check the mean and SD values of HbA1c, the values reported are confusing.

3) More detailed description of diabetic patients is needed, as disease duration, hypoglycaemic drugs used as therapy, presence of diabetes complication.

4) You should have used t-test to compare the mean of the different population, please add the test in the methods if you use it or repeat the statistical analysis.

5) What test do you use to evaluate the kurtosis?

Discussion

I think you need to examine with more attention the following points:

1) Why Sclerostin is undetectable in your population considering that Sclerostin is usually increased in diabetic patients and in elderly?
2) Patients are aged and with a long duration of menopause, how these factors have impacted on the results of your study?

3) What is the possible effect of glycaemic control (HbA1c), Hypoglycaemic drugs and diabetic complication in your population on the results of your study?

SUGGESTION:

1) Line 44 - REF 4 is dated, consider update reviews.

2) Line 56 - SOST is often used as abbreviation for the SOST gene, consider different abbreviation.

3) Line 94 - do not repeat "performed"

4) Line 160 - consider to change "as respect" with "compared to"

5) Line 161 - correct "ad" at the end of the line

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal