Reviewer’s report

Title: Diagnostic delay for giant cell arteritis. A systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 0 Date: 13 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Carlo Selmi

Reviewer's report:

In this manuscript, Dr. Prior and Colleagues report on a systematic literature review and meta-analysis to ascertain the diagnostic delay in giant-cell vasculitis. The study is highly meritory and based on very solid methods. The message is very clear (and quite scary)

I would only suggest some minor changes.

First, I feel the manuscript could be shortened to provide a major stress to the underlying message.

Second, I would recommend discussing the possible role of test availability (as for ultrasonography or PET/CT) as confounding factor.

Third, are there data on the outcomes of delays, particularly as for vision loss?

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

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