Reviewer’s report

Title: Vertical bone regeneration using rhBMP-2 and VEGF

Version: 0 Date: 19 Feb 2017

Reviewer: Matthias Schulz

Reviewer's report:

Materials and methods

Page 7, line 21: Maybe I missed the information but I would suggest to state, how many implants were inserted in the tibia.

Page 7: line 21 - page 8 line 5: The authors should state how wound closure has to be performed. Was a mucoperiosteal coverage achieved?

Page 9, line 3: For a better understanding please use quadrat or square instead of cube as it is mentioned as two-dimensional (2 x 2 mm).

Page 11, line 14-17: I am not sure whether it is helpful to summarize the values of the implants inserted in the tibia and the mandible. I understand the purpose of the authors to keep the number of animals as low as possible but let me address three issues:

1. The embryology of both areas is different. Whereas the mandible is mainly developed by desmoid osteogenesis the tibia is developed by chondral osteogenesis.

2. In the oral cavity there is a bacterial flora which may influence the healing of the implants. In the tibia, there should not be any bacterial flora.

3. As the teeth have been extracted 3 months prior to implant insertion there still might be some bone remodeling following the tooth extraction.

Therefore, in my opinion it would be more informative to divide the results by the different sites.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field
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.