Reviewer's report

Title: Relationship between bone density and bone metabolism in adolescent idiopathic scoliosis

Version: 1 Date: 7 April 2015

Reviewer: James Ogilvie

Reviewer's report:

Page Line Comment
2 4 Please define the criteria for assessing menarche. By gynecological standards, a minimum of 6 regular monthly cycles are required to declare menarche.

2 19 Is the normative data for BMD from age matched controls? If so what is the data base?

8 19 The word “progression” should be used rather than “aggravation.”

This is an interesting study that is worthy of publication. The authors have been careful not to claim that bone mineral density is a causal factor in AIS progression. This should be emphasized. In a polygenic disorder such as AIS, not all patients may have the same combination of genetic factors thus leading to the same metabolic pathways including those related to bone metabolism.

Several minor editing changes would be appropriate such as placing “the” in selected locations.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

N/A