Dear Dr. James Mockridge,

We thank you for your interest in our manuscript entitled "Radiographic Progression in Early Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients Following Initial Combination Versus Step-up Treat to Target Therapy in Daily Clinical Practice; Results from the DREAM registry".

Please find enclosed the second revised version of our manuscript and our response to each point raised by the reviewers. The reviewers had valuable suggestions and we agreed with the feedback which was given. The manuscript was modified accordingly. In addition, the entire manuscript was checked carefully for additional errors.

We thank the reviewers for their constructive criticism and for their efforts in helping to improve our manuscript.
We hope that the revised version will be acceptable for publication and look forward to hearing from you.

Also on behalf of the other authors,

Sincerely yours,

Laura Steunebrink, MSc

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Response to the few minor stylistic points

However, before we can pass your manuscript on to our production team, there are a few minor stylistic points that need to be addressed as outlined below:

1) Abstract: has the DREAM registry been registered in a publicly available trial register? If so, please could you provide the trial registration number and date of registration

Response: Remission induction in early rheumatoid arthritis is registered under trial id; NTR578 and registered on January 12, 2006. This has been added to the abstract.

2) Declarations section:

(i) Ethics approval and consent to participate:

- did the patients provide written informed consent?

- please indicate the name of the relevant law in the Netherlands

Response: The ethics committees of the participating hospitals determined, in accordance with the Dutch law on medical-scientific research with humans (Wet Medisch Onderzoek met mensen), that no ethical approval was required because all data were collected in the course of regular daily clinical practice. Nonetheless, patients were fully informed, and prior informed consent was obtained from each patient.
(ii) Competing Interests and funding:
- please separate this subheading into

Competing Interests

Funding

If there is no specific funding, please state Not applicable

Response: We separated the subheadings into competing interests and funding and answered below these subheadings

(iii) Authors contributions:
- please provide the initials for all authors instead of stating 'All authors' on the first line.

Response: We provided the initials of all the authors separately.