Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of chronic widespread pain in a population-based cohort of patients with spondyloarthritis - a cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 28 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Karl Gaffney

Reviewer's report:

This paper is well written however I have a number of concerns;

1. The term undifferentiated spondyloarthritis is rarely used now given that the ASAS classification criteria for SpA were published in 2009. As such readers will find it difficult to characterise this group of patients

2. Another non-SpA control group would have been helpful?

3. How do you distinguish chronic widespread pain from axSpA pain and fibromyalgia? This could represent axial disease, peripheral arthritis, enthesitis etc

4. Why should the readers be interested in chronic regional pain in this patient cohort?

5. Was any attempt made to validate the patient diagnosis?

6. Do we have any details on patient concomitant medication? e.g NSAIDs, TNF-inhibitors
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.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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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