Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence and associated factors of subclinical atherosclerosis in rheumatoid arthritis at the university hospital of Kinshasa.

Version: 0 Date: 13 Feb 2018

Reviewer: Gabriele Valentini

Reviewer's report:

The Authors investigated 75 consecutive RA patients from Kinshasa for the prevalence of subclinical atherosclerosis. They point out a prevalence similar to that detected in most centres from other countries. Nevertheless, the meaning of the finding would be strengthened by data on the prevalence of subclinical atherosclerosis in subjects from the same area, matched for sex, age and comorbidities, and by data on previous CV disease in the same subjects.

MINOR POINTS

Early disease is a disease with a duration < 6 months. However, < 1 year can be accepted

CRP cut off value should be 1 mg/dl

ESR cut off value should be 20 for males; 30 for females

Severe disease is better defined by a HAQ value>1

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.

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 recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

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