Reviewer’s report

Title: Ultrasound Detects Synovitis in Replaced and Other Surgically Operated Joints in Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients

Version: 1 Date: 14 Sep 2019

Reviewer: je rosa

Reviewer's report:

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1- The idea is very original, however, why did you combine prosthetic joint replacement surgeries with other osteoarticular operations (arthroscopy, joint fusion, tendon surgery and synovectomy) for ultrasonographic evaluation? Undoubtedly, these are two different scenarios to evaluate.

2- In title: change prosthetic replacements for joint surgeries, since you evaluated both surgical situations.

3- Ultrasonographic evaluation times were different between the two clinical trials initiated by the investigator. Also, two different drugs were used. It is not clear in the manuscript to which group each of the patients undergoing surgery belong. Could you add this information?

4- Despite the acceptable intra and inter-observer correlation of the two sonographers, they used two different machines to evaluate synovitis. Ideally one should use the same device throughout the study. Could you justify this?

5- In methods: you should describe better how to assess US synovitis of the operated joints: location, cuts, artifacts, etc. Also try to describe the US grayscale and power Doppler scores (was it similar to joint assessment without surgery?)

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.

Yes

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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