Reviewer’s report

Title: The Time Since Last Menstrual Period Is Important as a Clinical Predictor for Aromatase Inhibitor-Related Arthralgia

Version: 1 Date: 4 September 2011

Reviewer: Lukas Urs von Rohr

Reviewer’s report:

Minor essential Revisions:
- Toxicity profile of steroidal and non-steroidal aromatase inhibitors is not identical (shown for example in the MA.27 trial, P. Goss). The fact that all patients received Anastrozole and no other type of AI was administered, is essential. This should be mentioned in the abstract or even in the title (specify in the abstract: ...patients administered a non-steroidal AI or even name the product Anastrozole).
- Subjects/Methods: presence/absence of therapy to AI administration. It should be specified what kind of prior therapy (systemic treatment? endocrine? chemotherapy? hormone replacement treatment?). The same belongs to this point in the section of Results: specify what was the type of prior therapy (modality).

Discretionary Revisions:
Section Discussion:
Mention the possible influence of type of AI with possibly corresponding literature

Wording

Section Abstract Result:
1. the incidence were...for...the last menstrual period (LMP). It should be clarified that it is the "TIME SINCE last menstrual period". This must also be considered for the whole article
2. Wording of Conclusions (suggestion): ... The incidence was significantly lower (instead of less) for patients with duration > 10 yrs since LMP. When time to LMP was short, the onset of AIA was significantly earlier after starting administration.

Section Background:
1. it is more common to speak about "endocrine responsive disease" (instead of "hormone dependent bc").
2. ....it was reported that the occurrence is significantly higher when...(suggestion, instead of: it was reported that it occurs significantly easier...)
3. ...but the details of (omit: that) the clinical predictors have never been...
Section Discussion:
1. ...it can be thought that patients with a short LMP are more (instead of readily) susceptible to the effects...
2. tendosynovial ("d" is missing)

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.