Reviewer's report

Title: Role of endogenous and exogenous female sex hormones in arthritis and osteoporosis development in B10.Q-ncf1+/− mice with collagen-induced chronic arthritis

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Reviewer: Richard Williams

Reviewer's report:

This is a well-written paper documenting the effect of sex hormone manipulation in a recently described murine model of rheumatoid arthritis. Although the results do not offer any major new insights into the role of sex hormones in autoimmune disease but they offer important confirmatory evidence of a protective role for estrogen and raloxifene in arthritis.

One minor point. It would be worth discussing epidemiological evidence of a protective role for oral contraceptives in human rheumatoid arthritis(e.g. Silman et al).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.