

# Author's Response to the Review Comments

**Journal:** World Journal of Orthopedics  
**Manuscript ID:** 44523  
**Title of Paper:** Osteoarticular manifestations of human brucellosis: a review

Dear editorial manager,

We would like to thank you for your efforts on our manuscript. We have responded to the valuable comments raised by you and your reviewers and highlighted the changes in the manuscript text.

Best regards,

Dr. Esmaeilnejad-Ganji

**Reviewer's code:** 01220036

has too many grammar mistakes-needs editing by a certified English translator.

## **Response:**

With thanks, it should be stated that our manuscript was revised grammatically by a native English speaker.

**Reviewer's code:** 02691156

The title is referring directly to the problem at hand. The abstract is sufficient. Key words reflect the focus of the manuscript. Introduction is extensible and clear. Material and Methods are described under the following subchapters: [OSTEOARTICULAR MANIFESTATIONS: Spinal brucellosis, Spondylitis, Spondylodiscitis, Discitis, Sacroiliitis, Limbs: Septic arthritis,

Knee arthritis. Other manifestations. LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS]. Although an extensive literature search was conducted and authors describe their work as review, they do not indicate what studies they evaluate neither mention criteria of acceptance or exclusion used. Results is missing as a separate chapter. Discussion also is missing as a separate chapter, although part of it is included to the various subchapters, Limitations Although, in the submitted manuscript there is a multitude of citations for a medical condition that is endemic in some regions, information concerning treatment results of osteoarticular manifestations are not provided as a whole in a separate chapter but only in the various subchapters. The authors conclude “[...] Early and appropriate diagnosis and treatment of the disease is the key of success in management of the patients with the osteoarticular manifestation of brucellosis. This is feasible by an orthopaedic surgeon’s caution and early collaboration with a specialist in infectious diseases.” References are cited appropriately the latest references while the submitted manuscript is supported by 107 references. The submitted manuscript dealing with the “Osteoarticular manifestations of human brucellosis: a review” is describing the signs and symptoms of the condition and treatment. The literature review is not classified, and criteria of acceptance or exclusion used are not stated. Material and methods, Results and Discussion as separate chapters are missing or are included in partly within other chapters that thus weaken its value. The submitted manuscript needs revision. PS. I am including an old publication of mine that could be of some interest: Brucellar Spondylitis, Report of six cases B.T. Papathanassiou, G. Papachristou and G. Hartofilakidis-Garofalidis. Acta orthop. Scandinav. 43, 384-391, 1972. Brucellosis is an infective disease of world-wide distribution. It used to be endemic in the Mediterranean area, where it was first diagnosed and where it received its initial name ‘Malta fever’. It is also known as ‘undulant fever’ or ‘Mediterranean fever’ or ‘Rock Gibraltar fever’. The involvements of bones and joints may adopt many forms: Articular pains, Acute arthritis, Osteitis, Chronic arthritis. Brucellar spondilitis has been described in this last category. The small number of our series (six patients) shows the low incidence of brucellar spondylitis. The lumbar spine is an elective localisation. The treatment of brucellar spondilitis is concervative, as opposed to the surgical management of other complications with bone and joint involvement. All patients showed no signs of recurrence.

### **Response:**

Thank you for your comments and kind consideration. In response to your statement “Material and methods, Results and Discussion as separate chapters are missing”, it should be

stated that our article is a narrative review and a narrative review mainly does not have these different subtitles, and they are usual in a systematic review. Also, we need to mention that we added your reference entitled “Brucellar spondylitis. Report of 6 cases” to our review (ref. 4).