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CARTA AL EDITOR

Letter to Editor

Dear Editor,

We are submitting the following manuscript to the *Revista de Medicina e Investigación*, for its consideration for publication:

Title: "Preliminary clinical experience of the systemic use of ^{153}Sm -EDTMP as a pain palliation agent in arthrosis and as an option for bone scanning in patients with bone metastases".

Brief description of the importance and relevance of the work:

This work proposes the efficient and safe use of systemically administered ^{153}Sm -EDTMP in two cases. Firstly, as a bone scanning agent for patients suspected to have bone metastases, prior to its use as a palliative for pain.

Secondly, as an analgesic treatment for patients with arthrosis, to whom conventional treatments have not been effective and/or have produced undesirable side effects, after verifying that the compound is uptaken in the injured joint. In the first case, the diagnostic efficiency of the compound is evaluated, based on image quality, compared to the conventional $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$ -MDP agent. In the second case, the palliative effect on pain and joint motility enhancement is assessed, while monitoring patients' hematology to assure no toxicity to the bone marrow.

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