Comments to the Editor,

This manuscript studied the relation between the systemic sclerosis and bone

mineral density by using meta-analysis of previously published 12 manuscripts. In this article, research pre-collection was performed rigorously and comprehensive. However, further analysis should be considered to make the conclusion more solid and give the readers more comprehensive results. In general, I'd recommend publication if the authors can address the following concerns.

1. The authors extracted large number of covariates or confounders of the association study. Subgroup meta-analysis and meta-regression should be conducted to find the factors which interfere the association between SSc and bone mineral density, especially for some subgroups which have enough sample numbers, or else, please provide the sample size in the supplementary information for each subgroup.
2. In forest plots, like figure 1, femoral neck and total hip association with SSc should be provided. Additionally, sample size should be provided in the forest plots figures for each study.
3. Although publication bias is not significant, as the authors showed in the meta-analysis part, the figures should be provided, or at least as the complementary files.
4. The authors need to improve the quality of writing and presentation. Please also check carefully the references (for example, in reference 15, the following content has been lost: “sclerosis: a case-control study.”
5. Some certain interesting results should be moved from discussion section to results part with concise sentence.
6. Tables 1 & 2 should be modified more concisely. For Table 1, effective header and footnote will be helpful. For Table 2, three independent tables can be considered. Please provide more materials (supplementary files or materials) to help the readers understand the conclusions.