Reviewer's report

Title: Association between skin diseases and severe bacterial infections in children: case-control study

Version: 1 Date: 5 March 2006

Reviewer: Hüseyin Çaksen

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

In the article, the authors included children aged 0-17 years. The age groups in table 1 should be rearranged. Newborn infants should be separately examined. They should be matched similar age control groups. It is well-know that newborn infants are more prone to infections than older infants and children.

In the abstract, methods and results sections should be expanded. More information should be given.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

In tables, abbreviations should be detailed explained on footnotes.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests