Reviewer's report

Title: Geriatric urolithiasis in the emergency room: Risk factors and emergency treatment patterns

Version: 1 Date: 3 May 2012

Reviewer: Kristina Penniston

Reviewer's report:

This is a very well-written manuscript on a topic of significance to the general urologic and emergency care medical communities. Additionally, the paper will interest geriatricians and primary care providers whose patients include the elderly and also possibly radiologists, who may be interested to learn of the potential for under-imaging in the older stone patient. The paper was a pleasure to read. Methods are clearly defined. Descriptive data are thorough. The discussion is well-rounded and thoughtful.

You offer various explanations for the suboptimal pain control of older adults in the ED setting. It would be interesting to assess the perceptions of ED providers on this issue. Could it be that older adults complain less to ED providers or are somehow less verbal about their pain in the ED? Could there be a bias on the part of ED providers against adding another medication(s) to a population already at risk for poly-pharmacy? Do ED providers think the elderly don't have similar pain to younger stone formers?

I support the publication of this paper without revisions.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests