Reviewer's report

Title: Parents' reported preference scores for childhood atopic dermatitis disease states

Version: 2 Date: 5 August 2004

Reviewer: (Margaret) Sue Lewis-Jones

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors have managed to address the points I made in my first review as far as they are able to. I think that the paper addresses an important topic, although there is significant sampling bias and the authors descriptions and labelling of degrees of eczema severity (Table 1) do not necessarily correspond with clinical severity as judged by most dermatologists. This concerns me if the data were to be used to produce QALYs for atopic dermatitis in children without corroboration by other studies. 

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
I think that a comment in the conclusions concerning the necessity for further corroboration using a less biased sample with clinical defined disease severity should be made.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
There is a spelling mistake ref 8 should be 'Lewis-Jones'

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
None