Reviewer's report

Title: Pattern of fractures across pediatric age groups: Analysis of individual and lifestyle factors

Version: 2 Date: 26 September 2010

Reviewer: Frank Hildebrand

Reviewer's report:

This is the revised version of Valerio´s study addressing individual/lifestyle determinants associated with fractures in preschoolers, children and adolescents in an Italian Children Hospital. This is a very interesting study and presents nice data on injury characteristics in children. In summary, the investigators were able to show different injury characteristics dependent on personal behaviour particularly with an age dependent aspect.

Although the authors substantially and sufficiently restructured the article after the first review, there are some points left which need to be addressed.

- Minor Essential Revisions

Please provide a table for the exclusion and inclusion criteria

The site of injury is not sufficiently described. Please provide a table concerning the different types of fracture (e.g. forearm, closed; elbow, supradiacondylar) and the respective differences.

Please shorten the summary at the beginning of the discussion part

- Discretionary Revisions

The authors report about correlations of parents´ educational level within the discussion part. Please lengthen this part, since this topic deals with a very important topic.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'