Reviewer's report

Title: Expanded Tri-lobed Flap for Ear Reconstruction: An Animal Model in Rabbit

Version: 2 Date: 6 October 2003

Reviewer: Ian T. Jackson

Reviewer's report:

General

Discretionary Revisions
There are multiple spelling errors and some of the grammar is confusing.

Minor Compulsory Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
There are no minor compulsory revisions.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
As the manuscript is at the moment, it is not publishable because of the English. this would need to be totally rewritten by an English speaker since it is difficult to understand and certainly when read by a non-English speaker, would be even more of a problem. I also would appreciate some further statistics about the number of rabbits which have been used and a table showing the overall success, or otherwise, of the technique. I would also like to know about the use of cartilage as a support mechanism. Have you done that or not? Do you plan to? I think without this, you cannot really call what you have produced an ear.

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

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
None.