Reviewer’s report

Title: Surveillance of Testicular microlithiasis? : Results of a UK based national questionnaire survey.

Version: 2 Date: 1 November 2005

Reviewer: Raymond A Costabile

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General
The authors present interesting and relevant information on the physician diagnostic and treatment considerations for testicular microlithiasis (TM) in the UK. Our general feeling has been that there is a great disparity of concern amongst clinicians regarding TM which has not been supported by evidence based medicine. Quantifying this angst and disparity is helpful in forcing an objective review of the literature and practice patterns.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
Readership outside of the UK may not know who constitutes the membership of the BAUS. An elucidation of this group (who and where) would be helpful. A comment on the response rate (57%) should also be made - was any bias expected amongst those urologists who responded or did not respond?

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore) It would be useful if the authors could comment on the considerable delay that most patients with testis tumors (5-6 months in several studies) that are palpable take prior to seeking medical evaluation and the effect on treatment. As testicular cancer presently has such a high cure rate (exceeding 97%) what effect could be expected by earlier diagnosis?

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.