Reviewer's report

**Title:** Nonoperative Management of Blunt Renal Trauma: Is Routine Early Follow-up Imaging Necessary?

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 10 July 2008

**Reviewer:** Jonathan Wright

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a well written, straightforward manuscript that addresses an issue without standardization in urologic trauma, namely the immediate follow-up imaging of blunt renal trauma. This series, coming from a group that proposed a different finding 7 years ago, reflects the evolution of the management of renal trauma. It should be accepted with minor revisions.

**Discretionary revisions:**

1. Were the images reread to confirm the stage of injury?
2. How many patients during this time period were NOT managed non-operatively after blunt trauma? It would be interesting to know that “of the xxx patients with blunt trauma Y% were observed and comprise the cohort”. If the number of patients who were operated on was high, than you may have selected out those blunt injuries that were less likely to have any adverse outcome. Likely, this number is quite small and irrelevant, but should be included.
3. I am surprised by the low number of grade 1 injuries (only 16%). This is much lower than is reported in other series. The authors state that all patients with renal injuries were admitted. Is it possible that a number of grade 1 injuries were not admitted and thus not analyzed? If not, how do they explain the low rate of Grade 1 injuries.
4. Why were the 32 patients that did not have f/u imaging not imaged? What made them different from the rest of the cohort? Comparison of the baseline characteristics/associated injuries may be informative.

**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