Reviewer's report

Title: The burden of co-existing dermatological disorders and their tendency of being overlooked among admitted patients

Version: 2 Date: 6 March 2011

Reviewer: Daniel G Federman

Reviewer's report:

Several comments:
The writing in many places is not appropriate for a scientific journal. At times the authors appear to be lecturing the readers. For example, the paragraph on page 4 mentioning that an attending not addressing concurrent skin problems in a hospitalized medical patient would be "unprofessional and unethical" is way too strong. Same holds true for first paragraph on top of page 10.

Page 5, Would change sentence beginning with "Diseases that can be easily suspected" to "Some diseases that can be suspected"

Would also lose the last half of the last sentence before methods section. Wouldn't want readers to think that the authors had a bias entering the study.

Page 6, the authors talk about "the required sample size" but do not mention anything about power calculations or what the sample size was required for.

Page 9, first sentence in Discussion needs a reference

Page 12, can the authors provide evidence that "Furthermore, the majority of patients presenting to hospitals for various diseases do not complain about their accompanying dermatologic problems"? If that is proven, it should be referenced. If it is just speculation, it shouldn't be presented as fact, although I do agree it is most likely true.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests