Reviewer's report

Title: Skin cancers among Albinos at a University teaching hospital in Northwestern Tanzania: A retrospective review of 64 cases

Version: 1 Date: 22 April 2012

Reviewer: Maurice Efana Asuquo

Reviewer's report:

Page 2
Background
May wish to add" and proffer solutions for improved outcome" as this is included in your conclusion.

Results
Line 1 -"Their "should read "The".
Line 7- add number before 30%.

Page 3
Background, para 2, line1 - Is albinism commoner in regions closer to the equator or skin cancer in albinos commoner in regions closer to the equator?
Line 3, para 2 - 20000 should read 20,000.

Page 4
Line 5, "Nouse" should read "No use".
Line 1 para 2 Squamous should read squamous.
Line 2 para 2- In Africa, the....... 

It does appear that you gave reasons for improved outcome in your conclusion. You may wish to include this in your aims.

Page 5
Under Statistical analysis, line 2, frequent should read frequency.

Page 6
Under Clinical presentation - a clinical photograph will add value to this script as the focus of this report is clinical dermatology.

Page 7
Histopathological type
The contribution of the histopathologist should include a photomicrograph, possibly the melanoma which rare in albinos.

Treatment modalities
Page 8
Chemotherapy was not mentioned in the script, were there any reasons?

Outcome and follow up of patients
Line 4 - mortality rate of 6.3%, state the histological types involved as SCC, BCC and MM have different aggressive potentials.

Page 9
Para 2, line 7, What lesson can be derived from presentation below 40 years in albinos? Probably early institution of preventive modalities in albinos.

Page 10
Line 4/5, what could be the possible risk factor(s) in lesions of the trunk, limbs and genitalia. May be not ultraviolet radiation. Were there evidence of actinic keratoses in the head and neck lesions?

Page 11
Line 18, "were accessible to radiotherapy" should read "had radiotherapy".

Page 12
Line 3, it would be nice to match outcome of healed completely with the histological types.
Para 2, page 12, line 1, local recurrence should be compared with type of skin cancer.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

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