Reviewer's report

Title: Single application of 4% dimeticone liquid gel versus two applications of 1% permethrin creme rinse for treatment of head louse infestation: a randomised controlled trial.

Version: 1 Date: 13 February 2013

Reviewer: Remy Durand

Reviewer's report:

Review for BMC Dermatology Research about manuscript entitled “Single application of 4% dimeticone liquid gel versus two applications of 1% permethrin creme rinse for treatment of head louse infestation: a randomised controlled trial” by IF Burgess et al.

General

This is an interesting paper comparing the efficacy of 4% dimeticone liquid gel and that of 1% permethrin creme rinse for the treatment of Pediculus humanus capitis. The proposed methodology appeared scientifically sound and its assessment appeared correctly done. The paper is well written.

I have some minor comments as detailed below.

Specific

Minor Essential Revisions

1) Please insert a reference at the end of the first sentence of the Introduction section.

2) In the Results section, Outcome by individual paragraph: the sentences “In those who did have lice, … within the family or the local community” could be placed in the Discussion section.

3) Last paragraph of the same section: the mean total product used is expressed per g. Another relevant information may be added: the cost of treatments used per participant and per family.

4) Discussion section: authors may explain why they chose 1% permethrin creme rinse and not malathion lotion 0.5% for the comparison. I think that malathion has also a long history of use and is familiar to the decision makers and would probably have a better efficacy than permethrin.

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