Reviewer's report

Title: Distribution of Malassezia species on the skin of patients with atopic dermatitis, psoriasias, and healthy volunteers assessed by conventional and molecular identification methods

Version: 1 Date: 8 October 2013

Reviewer: ayadi ali

Reviewer's report:

1- The title page:
- The title should figured before the names of authors

2- The abstract:
- Background: delete “in the causation of”
- Results: should be more detailed and the statistical analysis is useless
- Results: restructure “all but one subjects under the study”

3- Keywords:
- Delete “phenotypic methods”
- “Drug susceptibility” should be at the last

4- Background:
- Add “The” before “Identification” and delete “the “ before “Malszezia” in the 3rd paragraph
- in the last paragraph “the bioactivity of the secondary metabolites of M. littoralis” by “the antifungal activity of essential oil”

5- Methods:
- Subjects: precise the difference between the mean age and the median age
- Culture condition and yeast strains:
  • Why the yeasts were cultured for 2 weeks? only 5 to 7 days are sufficient for the growth of Malassezia species

6- Results: there is repetition of the results
- Phenotyping identification: the term “isolates” is repeated
- PCR-RFLP analysis: what is “ca”

7- Discussion:
- replace “pediatric patients” by “children in the first paragraph

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.