Reviewer's report

Title: A liver fibrosis cocktail? Psoriasis, methotrexate and genetic hemochromatosis.

Version: 1 Date: 10 August 2005

Reviewer: Michael J Boffa

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This paper provides further evidence of the relative safety of methotrexate therapy for psoriasis. The fact that neither of the two patients on methotrexate who also had haemochromatosis developed significant liver fibrosis is noteworthy. As far as I know the use of methotrexate in patients with psoriasis who also have haemochromatosis has not been reported previously. This report should be of interest to dermatologists who might be faced with patients with haemochromatosis who need systemic treatment for psoriasis. I think however the report could be shortened and the essential information covered in a letter format. The report does not mention whether serum type III procollagen peptide was monitored in these patients. This non invasive test has been shown to be useful when measured serially for detecting liver fibrosis in psoriatic patients on methotrexate. In the discussion the authors should elaborate on this test and give their views about its usefulness for monitoring patients who have haemochromatosis and who in addition are on methotrexate.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Declaration of competing interests:

I confirm that I have no conflicts of interest to declare.