Reviewer's report

Title: Anti-thyroid peroxidase antibody and vitiligo: a controlled study

Version: 1 Date: 11 July 2005

Reviewer: Mauro Picardo

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors proposed an epidemiological study confirming previous literature data on the prevalence of auto-antibodies anti-thyroid in vitiligo population. The work can be interesting as there are few studies performed on the population of the middle-east.
§ The paper could be written in a more concise manner.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
A better clinical evaluation of the patients enrolled should be provided;
§ The correlation between thyroid disease and anti-TPO could be clarified;
§ The relationship between thr duration of the disease and positivity for anti-TPO should be annotated;
§ A table or graph representing the anti-TPO positivity versus age, sex and other characteristics of the population studied could be added;
§ The radio-immunoassay and the ELISA methods lack description and/or references.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

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