Reviewer's report

Title: Direct microvascular monitoring of a free autologous jejunal flap using microendoscopy: a case report

Version: 2 Date: 12 September 2006

Reviewer: Michael Sowa

Reviewer's report:

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

The authors have taken steps to address my main concern of unsubstantiated claims. For example, they have dropped effectiveness and repeatability claims, given that more than one case is generally required to demonstrate such claims. They have now added a paragraph that deals with inter-operator reliability. However, the description is incomplete. The authors quote a Kappa statistic of 0.85 but fail to mention what measure the statistic describes. Presumably since they are using a Kappa statistic the authors have devised an ordinal or categorical scoring method for determining blood flow with the endoscope. If so this scoring method needs to be described. Also the authors mention this scoring method was applied to forty cases, yet in the earlier experimental description the author's mention that 10 randomly chosen sites were used to qualitatively measure blood flow in the graft. This discordance also needs to be resolved. Otherwise, I have no further issues with the paper.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'