Reviewer’s report

Title: Development of the Chicago Food Allergy Research Surveys: Assessing Knowledge, Attitudes, and Beliefs of Parents, Physicians and the General Public

Version: 1 Date: 3 February 2009

Reviewer: Andrew S Kemp

Reviewer’s report:

This paper describes a considerable amount of work that went into the development of 3 surveys on food allergy. For most readers I think the principal interest lies not so much in how the survey was developed but in what it shows. Thus I think the paper would be much improved if we were provided with some data and conclusions demonstrating the surveys in action.

Thus as stated in the aims the knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs among these three populations is the point of interest and I think some information on this is required to round out the paper.

It would seem data is available "Data was obtained from 2148 members of the general US population" and " responses have been received from over 3000 parents of children with food allergy and over 400 pediatricians and primary care physicians." I would not expect all the data be analysed however we could be given information on the answers provided by the survey to important questions in the field and how these confirm or add to existing knowledge. It would seem that we could be provided with information on the survey in use without compromising any subsequent publication that the authors may have in mind.

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

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