Reviewer's report

Title: Thickness of the human cranial diploe in relation to age, sex and general body build

Version: 1 Date: 23 November 2005

Reviewer: Rolf Lehmann

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can
be reached)

1. p. 2, Results: line 2/3
The sentence “Diploëic thickness was…bone thickness.” Should be supplemented by “, except for
the left euryon in females.”

2. p. 2, Conclusions
So far the major part of this section repeats results and gives some additional information.
Only the last sentence contributes something to the meaning of your results.

I think this section can easily be extended and thereby improved.
Rewriting this paragraph would contribute to direct the reader’s attention to the importance of your
findings.

You may consider the following suggestions:

Which meaning has your main finding (sexual dimorphism in diploëic thickness in the frontal
region)?

How important are your findings in general, in your field, in related fields?

Which meaning do your results for clinicians, researchers and other professionals have?

Are your findings consistent/inconsistent with your earlier data and those of other authors?

Do you have any recommendations?

What remains unclear?

Is there a need for further specific studies?

A look at “Conclusions” in other papers recently published in HEAD & FACE MEDICINE may be
useful.

3. According to Terminologica anatomica = International Anatomical Terminology, 1998
(the joint creation of the Federative Committee on Anatomical Terminology [FCAT] and the

International Federation of Associations of Anatomists [IFAA]) the following terms should be used:

Fig. 1 Lamina externa or External table instead of Outer diploëic layer
Diploë or diploe instead of Trabecular layer
Lamina interna or Internal table instead of Inner diploëic layer
Compare also p. 8, line 2

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the
author can be trusted to correct)
p. 6, and others euryon instead of Euryon
p. 8, space bar: [6, 30] instead of [6,30]
p. 12, Table 2. instead of TABLE 2:
p. 13, Table 3. instead of TABLE 3:
p. 18, space bar: the human instead of thehuman

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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 importance in its field

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