Reviewer’s report

Title: Giant Cutaneous Horn in an African Woman: A Case Report

Version: 2 Date: 20 September 2007

Reviewer: Luigi Naldi

Has the case been reported coherently?: No

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: No

Is the case report persuasive?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: No

Comments to authors:

General

The diagnosis of a “cutaneous horn” is a morphological one and does not qualify any specific pathological entity. There are many different conditions where a cutaneous horn may develop. This should be made clearer in the paper. In the case presented, at least part of the problem may be connected with the lack of appropriate skin care in the area (e.g., use of emollients) which was taken covered all the time.

The statement that in Europe people presenting with a cutaneous horn are “treated with superstitious awe, and many enterprising showmen made careers out of exhibiting them for money” does not reflect the current situation. Cutaneous horns are not frequently observed (usually in aged people) but they do not represent any more a reason for curiosity or superstition.

What next?: Reject

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published