Reviewer's report

Title: Chilblains patients in Southern California: two case reports and a review of the literature

Version: 2  Date: 14 May 2014

Reviewer: Frank Domino

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Unexpected or unusual presentations of a disease

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: No

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

Overall, a very good review. A few thoughts:

1. The initial work is described as: "Initial laboratory evaluation should include: a complete blood count, ANA and antiphospholipid antibody profiles, cryoglobulins, and serum protein electrophoresis"

   --I am unsure if there is good rationale for doing more than a CBC and a ESR or CRP; if they are normal, is an ANA, Antiphospholipid antibody, cryoglobulin or SPE of value?

2. Under treatment, although the authors describe 2 small studies using nifedipine 20 mg tid, is this a realistic recommendation, given this drug's short acting risk? Might they go on to recommend discussion with a dermatologist or
cardiologist or use long acting nifedipine?

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests