Reviewer's report

Title: Dermoscopy a technique for the early identification of foot melanoma: a review

Version: 1 Date: 3 March 2009

Reviewer: Colin Morton

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript has been prepared to a high standard and I was hard-pressed to even find a typo - second paragraph 'Dermoscopy', '..decision making in when...' - no need for 'in'.

Given the focus of the review is the value of dermoscopy in recognition of melanomas of the foot, I was surprised at the omission of a few illustrations of acral melanomas - clinical and dermoscopic features - given that the authors have included excellent pics of features from benign plantar naevi.

I also question the value of Figure 1 - with all the images of dermatoscopes - perhaps an example of a practitioner using a dermatoscope and some comment regarding the preference, if any, between types of dermatoscope for use on pigmented lesions on the feet?

Comments to editor: An interesting review that deserves publication, might benefit from adoption of above suggestions,

C. Morton - no relevant competing interests.

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'