Reviewer's report

**Title:** Rapid detection of dermatophytes and Candida albicans in onychomycosis specimens by an oligonucleotide array

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 13 August 2014

**Reviewer:** C Grover

**Reviewer's report:**

- **Major Compulsory Revisions**
  It would have been more desirable to use nail plate histopathology as a comparator standard instead of fungal culture. Histopathology has a higher sensitivity and specificity, additionally aids in documenting actual invasion of the nail plate by the fungus, rather than accidental isolation from an already dystrophic nail due to other reasons.

- **Minor Essential Revisions**
  a. There are spelling and grammatical errors.
     Examples “Species-specific oligonucleotide probes constructed in our previously studies”
  b. Introduction section to be shortened and made more concise
  c. Discussion should focus on the results of this study, rather than discuss “data not reported” in the present study.
  d. A separate section for study limitations to be incorporated, just before conclusions.

- **Discretionary Revisions**
  Details about sample collection and transport to be incorporated. What is the ideal time to transport, any special medium needed, which part of the nail plate needed or gives higher diagnostic yield etc

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

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

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no competing Interests