Reviewer’s report

Title: Interdisciplinary and multiprofessional outpatient secondary individual prevention of work-related skin diseases in the metalworking industry: 1-year follow-up of a patient cohort

Version: 0 Date: 09 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Maximilian Schielein

Reviewer’s report:

Material and methods

1. Please shorten this section and focus on important points. Restructuring and combining similar sections might be beneficial.

2. For better and faster understanding of the existing prevention program and recruitment, the authors should add a detailed flow-chart.


4. Under "Inclusion criteria"(page 5 line 20) all inclusion criteria should be found. Please add the presence of a WRSD.

5. You mention table 3 before mentioning table 2 (page 6 line 6). Please label tables chronologically.

Results

1. Please shorten this section and focus on important points. Restructuring and combining similar sections might be beneficial.

2. You state no significant difference in patients dropped out compared to reported patients due to outcomes reported (page 7 line 20). Are there any differences not reported please specify and complement as this is crucial information.

3. 178 patients were included, you have complete date of 94 (53%) and report differences in T1-T4 of 83 (47%) of participants. Please specify the last reduction (92 □ 83) within the description of dropouts. A second flow chart might be beneficial for understanding.

4. Missing values should be included in the tables, as you only report about less than 50% of the study population.

5. Why are the patients numbers in table 4 so low (68-77) shouldn't there be more patients at these time points?
Discussion

1. Please shorten this section and focus on important points. Restructuring and combining similar sections might be beneficial.

2. A one-year follow-up is not a "long-term" follow-up. Follow-ups like the reported follow-up of 5 years (Wilke et al.) are "long-term". Please erase this phrase throughout the whole paper.

3. Please reconsider your assumption of representability (page 12 line 53). You only report about less than 50% the cohort (n = 83). Please discuss this topic in the limitations.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal