Reviewer's report

Title: A seven-year retrospective analysis of patch test data in a cohort of patients with contact dermatitis in Sri Lanka

Version: 0 Date: 03 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Stephan Forchhammer

Reviewer's report:

The authors present a seven-year retrospective analysis of patch test data in a cohort of patients with contact dermatitis in Sri Lanka. I think it is valuable information to set local standards.

But nevertheless, I would like to see a more detailed description of the methods used, in particular, methodology of the patch testing used has not been described.

Was patch testing applied for 24 or 48 hours? At which timepoint was the readout?

Have there been differences in the concentration of tested allergens?

Could a difference in time of application or concentration of the tested compounds explain a difference in positive results?

There is no comment on possible false positive results, have you assessed angry back reaction or irritant reactions?
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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.

Yes

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:

Acceptable

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