Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical Photographic Observation of Plantar Corns and Callus associated with a Nominal Scale Classification Model in a Student Population. An Inter-Observer Reliability Study

Version: 0 Date: 06 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Lisa Farndon

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for submitting this piece of work for publication, it is an important issue for podiatric practice. I have a few comments and minor revisions.

Abstract - line 37 and Background line 62. The grading system is restricted to the forefoot, it may need some further explanation as to why this is as callus can be present on the heels (I assume it is due to the original work coming from classification of plantar lesions associated with HAV?

Background line 64, please provide a reference.

Page 5, line 88 - "specific location" can you re-phrase as clinicians will use the anatomical site to describe lesions on the patient record.

Page 5, line 90 "MTH" in full first please.

Page 5, line 93, please can you give a little further description of a nominal group approach for those who are not familiar with this method.

Page 5, line 93, "scale graded 1-4" it would be beneficial to the reader to reference the criteria for each grade of the scale here.

Page 5, Table 1, I assume <10 and 20 years is the age of the patients? Can this be made clearer please.

Page 6, line 102, "fewer grade 4 lesions were found" from Table 1 it indicates that there are fewer grade 3 lesions too - can this be clarified?
Page 15, line 312 "fails to make a compelling argument for continuation without change ...." I think the value of core podiatry to sustain foot health, even if it has to be repeated at intervals should be highlighted here as previous research has shown it can benefit patients and reduce deterioration in their foot health and mobility.

Page 15, line 323, the grading system could also be used to show improvements over time to patients linked to specific treatments.

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