Author's response to reviews

Title: Genetic testing of newborns for type 1 diabetes susceptibility: A prospective cohort study on effects on maternal mental health

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Version: 2 Date: 3 December 2009

Author's response to reviews:

Chief Editor

BMC Medical Genetics

Oslo, 3rd December 2009

Dear Chief Editor of BMC Medical Genetics,

Enclosed please find our manuscript, entitled "Genetic testing of newborns for type 1 diabetes susceptibility: A prospective cohort study on effects on maternal mental health", submitted for consideration for publication in BMC Medical Genetics.

The manuscript was submitted to BMC Medicine in September 2009. The response was that the manuscript was not considered of broad enough interest to qualify for publication in BMC Medicine. The editor kindly suggested that the manuscript would be ideally suited to the scope and readership of BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth. I find the journal BMC Medical Genetics better suited. The article does not cover the topics of pregnancy and childbirth, but studies psychological effects of mothers when their newborns are tested for genetic susceptibility for disease.

Some minor changes in the manuscript have been made compared to the manuscript which was submitted to BMC Medicine. These changes have only been made to improve the language and clarity, as there was no peer review response from BMC Medicine.

The manuscript is original, not previously published, and not under current consideration elsewhere. The co-authors of the manuscript are in agreement with the content of the manuscript.
Previous studies examining reactions of mothers of children with high genetic risk for type 1 diabetes have been conducted in a setting where the mothers were asked questions about how they felt in connection with the genetic testing project. This study is differently designed. The mothers are not aware when they are answering the questionnaires that their answers are going to be used in a research study to investigate the effects of genetic risk information. Thus the mothers will not be biased against either showing that they are doing fine after the genetic risk information, or the opposite. This design has not been applied before in a study measuring the effects of genetic testing.

We thank you for considering this manuscript and hope it will be of interest.

Yours sincerely,

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