Reviewer’s report

Title: Preterm birth and reduced birthweight in first and second teenage pregnancies: a register-based cohort study

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Reviewer: valerie smith

Reviewer’s report:

The research question is clearly posed and well defined by the authors. In the opening sentence the authors state that the UK has the highest teenage pregnancy rate in Western Europe; Statistics (%) for the UK comparable to Western Europe would enhance this statement and further place teenage pregnancy rates in context for the reader (Discretionary Revision).

The methods used are appropriate; however the authors might state why the chosen method is appropriate to the current study (Discretionary Revision).

The authors need to clearly state if ethical approval was received or necessary for the current study (Minor Essential Revision)

Data - Page 7 of the manuscript; the authors state that in Primiparous women the mena birthweight is 3231g for 17-18yrs old - it would appear this should be 18-19yrs old (Minor Essential Revision).

The discussion and conclusions adequately support the data, however the authors could enhance their conclusion by alluding to its importance for the clinician, clinical practice and the care of pregnant teenagers, i.e. recommendations for practice relevant to their findings (Minor Essential Revision).

The authors appropriately describe the limitations to their study. The writing is clear, well-written and informative, displaying appropriately previous conflicting findings on this topic.

The title and abstract accurately convey what has been found.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'