Reviewer's report

Title: Sleep Duration, Vital Exhaustion and Perceived Stress Among Pregnant Migraineurs and Non-Migraineurs

Version: 1 Date: 12 August 2010

Reviewer: Joy Draper

Reviewer's report:

The questions posed by the authors of “Sleep Duration, Vital Exhaustion and Perceived Stress Among Pregnant Migraineurs and Non-Migraineurs” are meant to address significant gaps in medical literature regarding sleep disturbances among pregnant migraineurs. The authors’ hypotheses are based upon sleep disturbance and migraine studies conducted among nonpregnant patients. The importance of their questions is supported by a brief review of the problem of migraine in pregnant and reproductive age women.

Discretionary Revision: As a matter of style, I might edit the comma out of the following sentence in your background section: “We hypothesized that pregnant women with a history of migraines were more likely than women with no history of migraines to have shorter sleep durations, and to have higher risks of excessive daytime sleepiness, vital exhaustion and perceived stress.”

The approach to data collection is well described, as are the statistical methods utilized. The reporting of results is appropriate.

Discretionary Revision: The initial part of the discussion compares the study results with literature on sleep disturbances and stress levels among nonpregnant patients. The authors state that their observations are consistent with the literature, and give good examples of how their results complement existing literature on nonpregnant migraine patients. This section concludes with the statement, “Overall, our observations of higher odds of reported short sleep duration, excessive daytime fatigue, vital exhaustion and stress are consistent with previous studies.” However, the next part of the discussion regarding neuroendocrine alterations seems disjointed from the rest of the paper. Please help clarify how this section relates to the body of your paper, specifically the question of sleep disturbances, anxiety and fatigue in pregnant patients.

Limitations are well thought out and presented.

The conclusions of the paper are appropriate. I think the authors are correct in saying that their limited study may provide the groundwork for a more comprehensive examination of migraines and sleep disorders in pregnancy. They have made a good case for the importance of additional research in this area.
**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**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.