Reviewer's report

Title: Adverse birth outcomes among native-born and foreign-born mothers in Taiwan: A population-based birth cohort study

Version: 4 Date: 31 August 2012

Reviewer: Lai-Chu See

Reviewer's report:

1. wrongly use Bonferroni correction (Table 1, 2) and relevant text: Only multiple comparisons (such as Taiwan vs. China; Taiwan vs. Southeast Asia, China vs. Southeast Asia) need Bonferroni correction. Indeed, the significant level should be 0.05/3=0.0167 (not 0.0005). You should report that whether there is significant difference between two maternal groups at significant level of 0.0167.

2. Incorrect information:
   (1) However, “few” studies about birth outcomes of immigrant women in the Asia-Pacific region (p.4, para. 3, last 2 lines) # “few” studies should change to “several” as there are four references; “However” should be deleted. Reference 14-17 are from Taiwan studies # “Asia-Pacific region” change to “Taiwan”.
   (2) Our findings support the literature on epidemiological paradox showing that the association between “socioeconomic status (SES)” and birth outcomes was weaker among foreign-born mothers [15, 16, 17, 21] (p.13, para. 1, last 3 lines). Epidemiological paradox only refer to better birth outcomes of foreign-born mothers than native-born mothers, not specify to SES. Only reference 16 has SES information.

3. References needed: In Taiwan, 83% of immigrants in cross-border marriages .... Philippines (p.4, para. 1, last 3 lines).

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'