Reviewer's report

Title: Acculturation and Gestational Weight Gain in a Predominantly Puerto Rican Population

Version: 1 Date: 3 July 2012

Reviewer: Anna Maria Siega-Riz

Reviewer's report:

I enjoyed reading this manuscript on very timely topic. Please consider the following suggestions for the next revision:

Major compulsory revisions

1. Please describe how the women with a missing pregavid weight are different from the women included in your analysis. How does this affect your results?

2. The total weight gain computation is confounded by gestational age despite the fact that you limited your analysis to term deliveries. Since for some women (n=176) you used weight at the first prenatal visit if it occurred prior to 13 weeks and the fact that you did not adjust for GA in your model even though you used full term I would suggest that you calculate a standardized total weight gain variable for everyone at 40 weeks. That way you are making comparable comparisons. The small differences that you have noted may be due to this confounding by GA.

Minor Essential Revisions

3. In the discussion section, the sentence about the New Mexico PRAMS results needs to be moved up early in the paragraph.

4. The sentence referring to the work by Fuentes-Afflick does not seem to be relevant to this paper since it deals with obesity and not GWG.

5. There is a better study to cite in terms of the validity of self-reported weight of Hispanic women. It speaks to the fact that self-reporting of Hispanic women is different. Would recommend using this as oppose to the Oken study.

6. Given that the authors have information about physical activity and maybe diet- it would be helpful to see how these behaviors differ by place of birth and higher generation in the US.

7. The 3rd generation group is very small ~8% thus I would caution the interpretation of these results.

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