Reviewer's report

Title: Existing maternal obesity guidelines may increase inequalities between ethnic groups: a national epidemiological study of 502,474 births in England

Version: 2 Date: 2 November 2012

Reviewer: Jenny Cresswell

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revisions.

Thank you for addressing my previous comments, particularly regarding what happened to the women who booked later than the third trimester. I have two final comments:

1. Please explicitly state what proportion of women booked after the first trimester (& thus had their BMI adjusted). Maybe I missed this but I couldn't find it.

2. Please could you add a sentence to the study limitations paragraph acknowledging that you did this adjustment, & also stating that time of booking varies according to ethnicity and thus there is potentially a selection bias issue if the adjustment was inadequate.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests.