Reviewer's report

Title: Variations in Preterm Birth Rates by Level of Prenatal Care and Ethnicity in New Mexico

Version: 2 Date: 3 November 2011

Reviewer: Lynne Messer

Reviewer's report:

I thought that the authors did a nice job responding to the requested revisions. I think the background and discussion are much improved. Two minor essential revisions remain:

1. please eliminate the "missing data" category for the PNC plot, or separate it from the other categories (don't make it continuous). It contributes to a graphical image / story that is not justified using missing data. As a category, "missing" is not informative and should not be analyzed. I do not object to the authors showing the risk for the women for whom that data is missing, but it should not be continuous with the other appropriate categories.

2. The odds ratios have to be plotted on the log scale. We provide figures to give a visual representation of the data. Odds ratios plotted on the natural, not log, scale give a misleading visual representation. Please correct this misrepresentation before the paper is published.

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.