Reviewer's report

Title: Elevated maternal lipids in early pregnancy are not associated with risk of intrapartum caesarean in overweight and obese nulliparous women

Version: 1 Date: 13 February 2013

Reviewer: Horace Roman

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is well written, the methods are accurately explained, the Tables are well presented. The subject is new.

Several comments may however be done:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
I do not entirely agree with the authors’ choice to introduce continuous variables in the logistic regression. Estimation of OR as done in the study (per 1 cm and per 5 ys, Table 2) means that the authors supposed that the increasing/decreasing of the risk is constant on the whole interval of values. In fact, this assumption is seldom if ever correct. I strongly suggest transforming continuous variables in dummy variables and to estimate separate OR for each category.

Minor revisions:
The cholesterol level is assessed at 14-16 week-gestation. Is it not too early?
The same comment regarding the BMI. Where are data about the weight gain during pregnancy, which can be extremely variable and impact the labor?
The Discussion section is somehow short.
There are some errors which may confound the reader: The regression model is probably LOGISTIC and not multiple (as stated in page 5). I suppose that risk factors included in the regression model where selected when P<0.1 instead 0.01 (page 5).
Table 1: some differences, although statistically significant, are clinically less relevant (3 cm as regards the height, 1.8 ys corresponding to delta age, 0.3 days related to the term of delivery).

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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