Reviewer’s report

Title: Physical performance and 25-OH D vitamin. A cross-sectional study of pregnant and newly pregnant Swedish and Somali women

Version: 5 Date: 18 September 2013

Reviewer: Michael Holick

Reviewer’s report:

1. It would have been helpful if the authors had responded to each of the suggested revisions rather than simply incorporating them into the manuscript.

2. The authors need to be more clear and accurate about ultraviolet light and vitamin D. Since you cannot see ultraviolet radiation it is incorrect to call it ultraviolet light but rather ultraviolet radiation. Ultraviolet radiation does not increased skin synthesis but rather induces skin synthesis and not necessarily large quantities unless a large area is exposed. Also 6 months not all ultraviolet radiation is absorbed by the atmosphere. UVA radiation is still able to reach the earth even in Scandinavian countries. It is ultraviolet B radiation that is absorbed therefore there is no cutaneous production of vitamin D. This should be corrected.

3. 25-hydroxyvitamin D should be spelled out in the title. Also the abbreviation should be 25(OH)D.

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

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.