Reviewer’s report

Title: Perinatal mortality by gestational week in singleton pregnancies at and beyond term: a nationwide population-based cohort study

Version: 2 Date: 23 February 2014

Reviewer: Paul A De Reu

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions:
1- The authors focus not only on perinatal mortality at and beyond term but also on the difference in case of SGA and AGA. This should be mentioned also in the title of the article.

2- The methods used in the article are appropriate and well described although the standard used for estimation of due dates, ultrasound measurements at 18 weeks of gestation, should be explained in detail. On what measurements due dates are calculated in Norway at around 18 weeks (BPD, HC, FL, TCD …)? Moreover, the 18-weeks protocol may lead to some bias as the authors mentioned in the discussion.

Discretionary revisions:
3- In case of SGA caused by IUGR, it might be of interest to distinguish perinatal mortality in fetal and (early) neonatal mortality. Was there a reason why the authors didn’t make this difference?

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.