Reviewer’s report

Title: Birth setting, transfer and maternal sense of control: results from the DELIVER study

Version: 2 Date: 8 November 2013

Reviewer: Patricia Janssen

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1. Overall, this paper is much more clear and easier to read. In the introduction, paragraph 7, the authors state that women who plan a home birth have lower feelings of control during labour than women who plan a hospital birth. This contradicts current research from which it is well known that women choose a home birth to enhance their sense of control over their surroundings. It would make more sense to have the opposite hypothesis.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. In the limitations section, it is important to indicate that scoring of the LAS scale was done retrospectively for two different time points in labour, six weeks later. This raises the possibility of recall bias.
2. In the section on confounding factors in the methods, could the authors provide a reference for the score derived from postal code, based on education, income and employment rates?
3. Also in methods, the authors should say what proportion of subjects had missing values imputed for anxiety.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests