Reviewer's report

Title: Anti-diabetic Drug Utilization of Pregnant Diabetic Women in US Managed Care

Version: 1 Date: 4 June 2013

Reviewer: Dharmintra Pasupathy

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Anti-diabetic drug utilization of pregnant diabetic women in US managed care

INTRODUCTION

1. Important area of study as the secular trends of prescription often results in widespread adoption of clinical practice with often limited evidence base. Trends in prescription will allow correlation and further study on the effects of medication use in pregnancy.

METHODS

2. It will be useful to have some further information / clarity on the IMS lifelink database due to the variation in the healthcare system in the US – for e.g. what % of the patients in the database are from the private vs state health care system. - Major Essential Revisions

3. In the first sentence of the second paragraph in the methods the authors limit the entry criteria to only women seen in the preceding three months before conception. Is there a rationale to limit to only 3 months? - Minor Essential Revisions

4. What is CPT-4? - Major Essential Revisions

5. What is the basis of the calculation of the conception date? We know that the median gestational age of diabetic pregnancies are earlier than unselected population. There is also likely to be greater variation in the gestational age of delivery and consequently on the conception date by the proposed means of calculation. I see that the authors acknowledge this and attempt to address this. The estimation process may not be entirely clear for the general readership. - Minor Essential Revisions

RESULTS

6. In addition to the demographic trends presented over time, the general readership will also be interested in the trends of birthweight in these women. Although this is not the primary aim of the study. This data may not be available to the investigators. - Discretionary Revisions

DISCUSSION

7. The discussion is well written and addresses the strengths and limitations of the study. Further efforts in correlating drug utilization and pregnancy outcome are worthy of mention. - Discretionary Revisions
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:
No