Reviewer's report

Title: Umbilical vein injection of misoprostol versus normal saline for the treatment of retained placenta: intrapartum placebo-controlled trial

Version: 4  Date: 8 December 2013

Reviewer: Andrew Weeks

Reviewer's report:

The authors have improved the manuscript considerably. The introduction remains far too long (it reads more like a review article rather than an introduction to the research) and there remain many typographical errors, but it otherwise is scientifically appropriate. However there remain several specific areas for improvement:

1. the blood loss is most appropriately reported as median with p value only (using the Mann-Whitney test)
2. the methods are easiest to read if placed chronologically (e.g. the consent section could follow the first enrolment paragraph
3. i still maintain that the numbers recruited should appear for the first time in the results.
4. table 1 needs reformatting and combining with table 2
5. in table 3 only the higher value for blood loss and time to placental separation need to be shown
6. the time to placental separation only relates to those delivered by controlled cord traction (i assume). This needs to be explicit in the text and table 3.

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

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

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