Reviewer's report

Title: Pregnancy outcome following gestational exposure to azithromycin

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Reviewer: A Ornoy

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In this study the authors compare the pregnancy outcome of 123 women exposed during pregnancy to azithromycin in comparison to 123 women on other non-teratogenic antibiotics and 123 women exposed to non-teratogenic drugs. The authors found no difference between the groups and hence state that azithromycin "seems to be safe in pregnancy". The reviewer agrees with this conclusion but would prefer the statement "is not a major teratogen" because of the small size of the sample and paucity of prospectively assessed cases.

The paper is well written and should be accepted, as the information is important for clinical teratologist. However, I would recommend adding, if available, the average daily doses of this drug for the women that received the drug for several days, and if available, the duration of treatment in this subgroup. Because 20 of the women (18%, constituting one of the two subgroups of the entire sample) received for Clamydial infection a single dose of 1 gram azithromycin, as opposed to those receiving smaller daily doses but for several days, it seems important to report how many malformed infants were in each of these 2 subgroups. A single high dose may either be less or more teratogenic than continuous treatment with lower doses. Thus, this subdivision into the 2 subgroups is important, and should be described regarding birth weight and gestational age at birth. Otherwise, the study is, to my opinion, acceptable for publication.