Reviewer's report

Title: A population-based study of race-specific risk for placental abruption

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Reviewer: T'sang-T'ang Hsieh

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Shen and co-workers conducted a population-based cohort study to assess racial effects on placental abruption and the contribution of placental abruption to preterm birth, at different gestational age categories. They confirmed most prior studies that Black women are at increased risk for placental abruption compared to White women, even when controlling for important confounding factors. Moreover, they found that the relative contribution of placental abruption to term births was greater in Black women, whereas the relative contribution of placental abruption to preterm birth was greater in White women.

Overall the manuscript is well written and addresses the hypothesis with appropriate analysis. The results are well presented and interesting, and the limitations are clearly stated.

Two minor points needed to be revised. First, page 10, second paragraph, first line: the number “644,303” should be “664,303”. Second, this is a research article and therefore about 25-40 references should be sufficient here.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.