Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with breastfeeding cessation in nursing mothers in a peer support programme in Eastern Lancashire

Version: 1 Date: 13 February 2009

Reviewer: Yun Zhao

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Minor Essential Revisions
1. Survival analysis distinguishes from other statistical methods due to the censoring mechanisms involved and it has been applied in various fields. The authors do a good job of using Cox proportional hazards modeling to determine factors associated with breastfeeding cessation in Eastern Lancashire. I think this is an interesting paper which provides useful information of patterns of infant feeding and the breastfeeding duration.

2. In some literatures, breastfeeding has been defined as exclusively breastfeeding, fully breastfeeding and any breastfeeding. It seems that this paper collected exclusive breastfeeding data for analyses/modelling. A definition of breastfeeding should be given.

3. The paper concluded that “Sub-group analyses showed that 2nd born babies were breastfed for the shortest duration while mothers with 6th and higher birth babies had the longest duration”. However based on Table 2, mothers with 4th babies had the longest mean duration (23.5 weeks).

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'