Reviewer’s report

Title: Reproducibility of different screening classifications in ultrasonography of the newborn’s hip

Version: 1 Date: 18 October 2010

Reviewer: CHRISTOS YIANNAKOPOULOS

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions

Although the quality of written English is satisfactory editing from a English-speaking editor will improve the quality of the paper.

One major criticism is that the study was performed in infants with normal hips. According the Terjesen classification no abnormal hips were noted, whereas according to the Graf classification only 1 hip with minor dysplasia was noted. Greater variation is expected in dysplastic and dislocated hips.

The statistical evaluation is straightforward using valid methods. The sample size probably is big enough to support the results and the conclusions. The lack of statistical significance between the measurements of the three investigators could be attributed to the limited sample size. Please report, according to your data, on the possible effect of the sample size on the variability of the measurements.

Please describe the limitations of the study in a separate paragraph.

Table 1. Correct the word assessment.

Table 1 could be omitted and its contents should be included in the methods section.

In Tables 3 and 4 the levels of statistical significance should be reported as well as the total agreement.

Conclusions. The medical student cannot be characterized as “well-trained examiner”.

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.