Reviewer’s report

Title: Long term outcome in relationship to neonatal transfusion volume in extremely premature infants: a comparative cohort study

Version: 3 Date: 2 February 2011

Reviewer: Robin Whyte

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have responded in detail to previous review, and appear to have agreed with most suggestions and incorporated them, or successfully justified refuting them. The errors of syntax appear to be addressed. My main difficulty is in accepting that the structure of this enquiry (an inter-institutional comparison of neurodevelopment outcome of infants receiving transfusions according to regimes which differ only in transfusion volumes of 15 vs 20 ml/kg) makes it a useful contribution to the difficulty we have in evaluating the results of the current randomized trials. What provoked this enquiry (it might be useful to clarify this)? It would not be an appropriate contribution to a debate generated from large randomized trials.

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

None