Reviewer's report

Title: Current Pattern of Ponderal Indices of Term Small-for-Gestational Age Nigerian Babies

Version: 1 Date: 21 April 2013

Reviewer: Olugbenga Mokuolu

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. There was no specific definition of asymmetric and symmetric SGA. The authors simply stated how they sub-classified classified the SGAs but did not reference the definition used. There was no reference to the Occipito-frontal circumference in the sub-classification.

2. In the methods, there is no description of the cosmopolitan Lagos, general socio-economic characteristics, altitude, malaria prevalence in other to give some context to the socio-demographic characteristics of the study area.

3. In the first paragraph of the discussion, the argument is relatively weak. While quality of prenatal care may be important, the authors have not stated more plausible factors or cross referenced any information to particularly support this claim to explain the difference in the prevalence of SGA obtained from this study and that of other neighboring sites (Shagamu and Ilesha).

4. The discussion has also not particularly addressed the application of the findings of this study and its implication on care of the newborn, considering that the findings are largely "not unexpected"

Discretionary

I am of the view that the sample population is low and restricted one state in a diverse country like Nigeria to that extent the title should rather read 'Current Pattern of Ponderal Indices of Term Small-for-Gestational Age in a population of Nigerian Babies'.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests