Reviewer's report

Title: Prediction of 7-Year Psychopathology from Mother-Infant Joint Attention Behaviours: a case-control study.

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Reviewer: Luisa Lazaro

Reviewer's report:

The authors present a case-control study nested within a prospective cohort. They examined whether mother-infant joint attention behaviours in social-communicative interaction at 12 months, are predictive of later diagnosis of psychopathology in the child at seven years of age.

This is a well-written paper with clear aim and correct statistical analyses. There is some suggestion that the authors may take into consideration to improve the manuscript (Minor Essential Revisions):

Abstract: In the Results, is necessary to support the text with numerical data (odds ratio with 95% confidence interval and p-value) when association is found.

Method: The mean duration of caregiver-infant interactions should be more appropriately described at the end of the 2nd paragraph, instead of at the end of 3th (p.5).

Results: In the 4th paragraph, the p-value regarding the association between long interaction duration with shared attention intensity should be included (p.8).

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

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'