Reviewer's report

Title: Predictors of Exclusive Breast Feeding: Observations from the Alberta Pregnancy Outcomes and Nutrition (APrON) study

Version: 1 Date: 29 October 2012

Reviewer: Monica Burnett

Reviewer's report:

I feel that this manuscript includes interesting and important results that should be shared via publication. As it is currently written, I cannot recommend it for publication because it needs to be edited. Several sentences and paragraphs are very confusing and make it difficult to determine the authors' intended meaning. There are several instances where the authors improperly use words, use unnecessary words, or leave out words. There are also some punctuation errors and spacing errors. These errors are both distracting and make the content confusing. This manuscript would be greatly improved if it were reviewed by someone with strong editing skills.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
Here are some specific examples of sentences/paragraphs that need attention:
line 91-95 confusing; improper use of word "parameters"
line 98-99 – improper use of language – it is incorrect to say that you bring a population closer to the guidelines. You can instead say that breastfeeding programs may result in an increase in the number of infants who are exclusively breastfed.
line 122 – not clearly written
line 124 – insert “study” after APrON
line 124 - did the participants complete records or surveys?
line 131 -133 confusing
line 134 - insert “the” between “from Health”
line 138-139 – rewrite more clearly
line 171 – describe which questionnaires you are referring to
line 182 – should read: The primary outcome of [interest in] this study...
line 191 – “As suggested by previous researchers” is not an appropriate in this sentence
lines 233-241 – this is a very confusing description of the results and needs to be written more clearly
lines 287-289 – unclear
line 367 – you say the duration is “shorter” – you must state what are you
comparing?

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

**Quality of written English:** Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests