Reviewer's report

Title: Predictors for early introduction of solid food among Danish mothers and infants: an observational study

Version: 1 Date: 21 July 2014

Reviewer: Jane Scott

Reviewer's report:

The paper is generally well-written and the methodology clearly described. The investigation of the psychosocial factors related to infant temperament and recognition of infant hunger cues extends our knowledge in this area beyond that of socio-demographic determinants which can be used to identify high-risk groups but are not amenable to modification.

Discretionary changes

1. Page 1 Abstract I think the inclusion of the response rate of 63% should be removed from the abstract as it is unclear what this refers to. For example, is it 63% of eligible births or 63% of mothers for whom there was available data? I think it is sufficient to include only the study population number of 4503 in the abstract.

2. I think the interaction between maternal BMI and breastfeeding status warrants further discussion. Breastfeeding status in this context is probably a proxy measure of health literacy in this relationship. This finding suggests that a “health literate” mother is likely to breastfeed and introduce solids according to recommendations regardless of her BMI.

Minor essential changes/ minor typographical or grammatical errors

(NB page numbering starts with page 1 being the abstract page)

3. Page 3 Background Para 4 line 5 should read “family’s feeding practice” not families

4. Page 3 Background Para 4 line 8 should read beliefs (not believes)

5. Page 4 line 1 . There is a missing apostrophe, should read new parents’ parental confidence

6. Page 8 2nd last line I think this should read “doubled the chance” not change.

7. Page 10 Discussion 3rd para. The sentence which begins “This is in accordance ….“ Is clumsy and I found it difficult to follow.

8. Page 10 3rd line from bottom should read “mothers’ perceptions”

9. Page 13 3rd line from bottom should read “supporting breastfeeding and teaching ….”

10. Table 1 a period (.) rather than a comma (,) should be used for p values

11. Table 2 Perceived infant temperament Spell the value out in full e.g. not very
temperamental

12. Table 2 footnotes should read “none or short education”

13. Table 3 Use temperamental rather than temp for factor labels.

14. Table 3 Add a footnote to define BMI20, BMI25 etc and BW 3.00 and BW3.5 presumably these number refer to a range of BMIs and infant birth weights. Does BMI20 include those who were < 20 kg/m2 or #20. Similarly does BW3.0 included those infants <3.00 or # 3 kgs

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare I have no competing interests