Reviewer's report

Title: Catch-up growth up to ten years of age in children born very preterm or with very low birth weight

Version: 1 Date: 30 April 2005

Reviewer: Joan E Hodgman

Reviewer's report:

General This is an important article on follow-up of VLBW infants. Although the subject has been previously reported, this article contains a large data base draw from an entire country. The methods are appropriate and well described. The conclusions are supported by the data. The article is well written and clear. The discussion includes the important previous information. The abstract is particularly well done.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached) I have no major revisions to suggest.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct) The second sentence in the second paragraph of the Background is not clear.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore) I had some trouble converting the SDS into measurements. I would find actual measurements added to the tables helpful.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.