Reviewer's report

Title: Case-control study of sudden infant death syndrome in Lithuania, 1997-2000

Version: 2 Date: 30 July 2005

Reviewer: Josef Milerad

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors has revised and modified the paper extensively and most questions have been answered in a satisfactory manner.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
I do have some remaining concerns regarding how statistics has been used (or misused) in this study.

If the authors have analyzed 30 risk factors and found 15 of these to be significant it is not unlikely that some of these significances are by chance and may not reflect the underlying biology. Some of the sociodemographic factors are likely to be interrelated. Mothers < 20 years of age probably have less than 12 years of education and a probably also low self – perceived family status.

In the discussion of the multivariate model the authors ought to have a critical appraisal of how many factors one can possibly test on a relatively sample and the robustness of their model.

The issue of sleeping position should also be commented upon. If prone is not used in Lithuania than it can hardly be a risk factor -see page 8 para 1.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interests