Reviewer’s report

Title: Perinatal complications and socio-economic differences in cerebral palsy in Sweden - a national cohort study

Version: 2 Date: 22 July 2008

Reviewer: Nicholas Spencer

Reviewer’s report:


The authors have addressed the comments made by reviewers and have acknowledged in the text the methodological problems associated with using hospital discharges as the means of identifying children with CP. Population studies using secondary analysis of routine data invariably have methodological problems particularly those related to potential misclassification bias. However, studies such as this are vitally important to understanding the social patterning of outcomes as important as CP in whole populations – the authors have made every effort to minimise bias and where this is not possible to identify methodological limitations.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I am one of the authors of a UK based study that showed a similar social gradient in CP. Otherwise I have no competing interests