Reviewer's report

Title: Comparison of a French pediatric type 1 diabetes cohort's responders and non-responders to an environmental questionnaire

Version: 2  Date: 7 October 2014

Reviewer: Stelios Tigas

Reviewer's report:

This is a useful study investigating the factors that may influence response rates to an environmental questionnaire by parents of a large cohort of children with type 1 diabetes in France.

The main finding was that responders tended to have higher socioeconomic status and education level; these results are consistent with previous reports, as stated by the authors. In addition, responders differed in that their children with type 1 diabetes were younger and had better glycemic control compared to those of non-responders.

The manuscript is well and clearly written and the data are presented in a logical way.

Major compulsory revisions

None

Minor essential revisions

1. Page 5, line 112 'were sent to all 2832 parents'. Presumably the correct should be 'to all parents of 2832 children' as stated in the abstract (line 34).

2. The definition of responders and non-responders was based on whether a response was received at 33 months (page 5, line 115). Please explain if there was a basis for this.

3. Please explain how the "scores predicting environmental questionnaire return" offer any additional information to the study results. If not considered essential, these as well as figures 2 and 3 could be omitted.

Discretionary revisions

None

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable
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