Reviewer’s report

Title: Neck/shoulder pain in adolescents is not related to the level or nature of physical activity or type of sedentary activity in an Australian pregnancy cohort

Version: 1 Date: 20 May 2009

Reviewer: Leoné Smith

Reviewer’s report:

This is an excellent article with relevant new information. A well-defined question has been posed. The methodology of the study process was clear and thorough. The data presented are sound. The writing and presentation of the article is of a high standard.

Minor Essential Revisions:
Table 1 of the Results section on page 26-27 contains too much information and needs clearer demarcation of information.
In the first sentence of the second paragraph of the Results on page 10 a word may be missing as the meaning of the sentence is unclear.
In the fifth sentence on page 18 of the Discussion, a word is missing as well.
The Conclusions of the article is very short and abrupt. Could the authors expand slightly more in this section?

Discretionary Revisions:
The title of the article is somewhat misleading in referring to the study population as "Australian pregnancy cohort".
In the Data Analysis section on page 9, the authors refer to reference groups when comparing the adolescents' activity level and sedentary activities. The two reference groups differ as the one for activity level is the moderate exposure group and for the sedentary activities, the reference group was the participants with the least amount of time in each sedentary activity. The difference in choice of reference group is not clear. Could the authors clarify this in the text?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.