Author's response to reviews

Title: Hypothyroidism Among Military Infants Born in Countries of Varied Iodine Nutrition Status

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dr. Alam:

This letter is in response to the reviewer’s report on our article “Hypothyroidism Among Military Infants Born in Countries of Varied Iodine Nutrition Status”. Once again we appreciate the helpful comments provided by the reviewer. Please find below, the response to each specific comment.

1. The sentence regarding iodine intake in the US territories has been modified to represent the lack of available data.

2. A sentence has been added to the Identification of hypothyroidism section in the Methods section to state that all Department of Defense-sponsored infants undergo screening for hypothyroidism.

3. As data regarding the sources of iodine for military families was not obtained in this study, we have chosen not to add information in the Methods sections. We have maintained information in the initial paragraph in the Discussion section and expanded upon it. In this section, we propose that the intake of iodine in the military families living overseas may be similar to that in the United States, possibly due to military-specific food sources or prenatal vitamins use.

We are again thankful for the feedback provided by the reviewer and would be happy to respond to any remaining concerns.

Sincerely,

Marcus M. Cranston, MD, MPH