Reviewer's report

Title: Risk of Placental Abruption in Relation to Migraines and Headaches

Version: 1 Date: 17 June 2010

Reviewer: TSANG-TANG HSIEH

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Discretionary Revisions

Sanchez et al. performed a case control study to investigate the association between maternal history of migraine or headache and placental abruption. They found that a history of headache before or during pregnancy is associated with an increased risk for placental abruption. In addition, women with migraine during pregnancy are at increased risk, though not statistically significant, for placental abruption.

The manuscript is well written with clear hypotheses and well described methods. The strength of this study lies in its inclusion of large number of women with placental abruption and use of a well-structured, standardized questionnaire to collect essential information according to established diagnostic criteria for migraine. Although the present study fails to demonstrate a statistical significance in the association between maternal migraine and placental abruption, the results derived from this study suggest a need for prospective cohort studies to clarify the association between these two events. Furthermore, it provides useful information for clinicians when counseling pregnant women with a history of migraine or headache for adverse pregnancy outcomes.

The authors may consider including a recent paper by Hung et al (Risk factors for palcental abruption in an Asian population, Reproductive Sciences 2007;14:59-65) in their introduction to provide a more general and global view about the prevalence and risk factors for palcental abruption and its association with adverse pregnancy outcomes.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.