Reviewer's report

Title: A cross-sectional study of different patterns of oral contraceptive use among premenopausal women and circulating IGF-1: implications for disease risk.

Version: 2 Date: 3 March 2011

Reviewer: Luis Miguel Garcia-Segura

Reviewer's report:

This study reports changes in IGF-I levels in plasma in premenopausal women associated to the current or past use of oral contraceptives (OC). The results indicate that past use of OC is associated with increased IGF-1 levels. This is a new and interesting finding. The results also confirm that the current use of OC is associated with lower IGF-1 levels. The study is well designed and includes a large number of women. The main limitation of the study is the lack of information on the formulation of OC used, but this point is adequately discussed.

Minor essential revisions

Legend of figure 1: Please describe the statistical parameters represented in the figure.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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 declare that I have no competing interests