Author's response to reviews

Title: Pregnancy outcome after use of cranberry in pregnancy - the Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study

Authors:

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the revised manuscript 3319569911032191 "Pregnancy outcome after use of cranberry in pregnancy – the Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study", that we would like to resubmit for publication in the BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

The revised version of the manuscript is based on the editorial comments:

- With regards to the Additional file that you have included with your submission, we would consider this to contain enough clinical information to render the children and mothers included potentially identifiable. We must therefore ask you to confirm whether consent to publish this information was obtained from each of the mothers, and to include a statement to this effect in your manuscript. Alternatively, please collate the information in the table such that it is unidentifiable, or remove this table altogether.

Response:

We thank the Editorial board for this concern. We have discussed your different suggestions in our team, and concluded that the added value of this additional table does not outweigh the potential risks of identifying individual mother and child pairs. We therefore suggest removing this table altogether.

This has caused minor changes in page 12 and 13, and the text now reads: “The 11 cases of infants born with malformations after exposure to cranberry in the first trimester were scrutinized (data not shown). No specific pattern of malformations was revealed. The five cases of serious malformations were two cases of hypospadias, two cases of macrocephaly and one case of congenital deformity of the sternocleidomastoid muscle. The other cases which were not classified as serious malformations were four cases of congenital dislocation and other deformities of the hip (3 cases) and feet (1 case), one case of ankyloglossia and one case of undescended testicle.”

Sincerely yours,

Kristine Heitmann,

on behalf of the authors