Reviewer's report

Title: Internal validity of the Swedish Maternal Health Care Register

Version: 1 Date: 17 April 2014

Reviewer: richard J derman

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well-conceived and well-presented cross section observational study to determine the validly of a government (Sweden) mandated, midwife generated data registry by comparing to original source documents (medical records).

Dual data was available and consented for 85% of cases representing 28% of all deliveries in 2011. While the authors provide no information on the excluded 15% of delivering women, the same size appears sufficient to support validly.

Internal consistency was good and further improved by a second correlation exercise.

With some exceptions (i.e. second trimester screening and postpartum information), the instrument should prove useful for the areas predetermined, - quality control, management and some types of research.

The small number of twin deliveries may not be representative of data associated with care and delivery of singletons.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that i have no competing interests.