Reviewer's report

Title: Micronutrient Supplementation and Pregnancy Outcomes: A systematic review

Version: 3 Date: 27 June 2012

Reviewer: Andrew E. Czeizel

Reviewer's report:

The topic is important because preterm birth (PB) and low birthweight (LBW) are the major causes of infant mortality and a certain part of these adverse pregnancy outcomes is connected with the nutritional deficiency of pregnant women.

However this manuscript is very poor from both scientific and technical aspect.

The major scientific weakness of this review is that the internationally appreciated meta-analysis and other systematic evaluations of the association of maternal nutritional deficiencies and PB and/or LBW are not known by the authors.

For example


On the other hand the most important RCT in this topic are not mentioned.

For example


From technical aspect this review is burdened may errors.

1. Authors used abbreviations without explanation such as LBW, SGA, MMN.
2. Authors mentioned the above abbreviations but later their used these terms, e.g. low birth weight and small-for-gestational age.
3. Many citations in the text are mentioned by the name of authors though the Reference list is based on the number of citations.
4. Many references are cited by the first name (Parul, Umesh, Prakesh, etc) in the text and in the Reference list, though we use only the second/familial names.
5. Some scientists (Hofmeyr GJ et al., Bruce W, Dror DK) are mentioned in the
text but we cannot find them in the Reference list.