Reviewer's report

Title: Paternal obesity is associated with IGF2 hypomethylation in newborns: results from a Newborn Epigenetics Study (NEST) cohort.

Version: 2 Date: 10 June 2012

Reviewer: milagro fermin

Reviewer's report:

The questions posed by the authors are new, well defined and clearly responded.

The methods are appropriate but there is a problem. The results are based on data (parental obesity) that have not been directly measured by the authors, but reported by the mothers.

The data are not well controlled because they do not come from direct measurements, which is not "scientific". They could vary if the fathers would have measured by the authors. Therefore, there is a lack of reliability in the parental anthropometric data.

The manuscript adheres to the relevant standards for reporting.

The discussion and conclusions are supported by the data and respond to the objectives. The literature is properly cited and up-to-date.

Abstract and title are correct.

The article is well written. However, some minor errors can be found: “a continues variable”, “this results was”, “regression analyzes shows that”

Two question:
Is 3% enough to establish "biologically significant differences" in DNA methylation?
Child weight is related to parental obesity?

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests