Reviewer’s report

Title: An unusual pattern of skin pigmentation during pregnancy: case report

Version: 1 Date: 3 May 2011

Reviewer: Vijay Somani

Which of the following best describes what type of case report this is?: New associations or variations in disease processes

Has the case been reported coherently?: No

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: No

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

Pigmentary changes are the commonest physiologic changes seen in pregnancy. These are more common in darker skin types. Pigmentation of nipples, areolae, axilla, neck and other flexures is quite common. Band like pigmentation over the abdomen is also seen not infrequently. Pigmentation involving the umbilical area, extending to the symphysis pubis has also been reported. (Dr Robert P. Blereau | September 1, 2002, Three Cases of Hyperpigmentation of Pregnancy, Consultantlive.com Vol. 42 No. 10).

However such extensive pigmentation involving the abdomen and breasts is unusual, and hence, is worth reporting. The presentation and the text need refinement. A biopsy of the pigmented area could have been more helpful in excluding any other likely pathology or association.
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published