Reviewer’s report

Title: Is postpartum depression a homogenous disorder? Time of onset, severity, symptoms and hopelessness in relation to course of depression.

Version: 2  Date: 20 August 2014

Reviewer: Giuliana Cortese

Reviewer’s report:

The statistical analyses performed by the authors on the data in the paper are appropriate and results are well reported. The tables are enough clear and self-descriptive.

Only few comments are reported hereafter.

Minor Essential Revisions:

- In the section Method, the author wrote that participants were recruited during the examination at six months after childbirth, or later up to twenty-four weeks. They wrote also that the participants were studied six to twenty-four weeks after delivery. Is the information about the period from six to twenty-four weeks obtained retrospectively for those participants recruited later than six months from delivery?

- Table 3: cumulative frequencies are here reported, that is, those mothers having depression at delivery have also depression after ten days, after four weeks and after six weeks. Then, it is difficult to see how many participants had depression from delivery, how many only after 10 days, how many only after four weeks, and so on. Would it be clearer to report the simple frequencies here?

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