Reviewer’s report

Title: Influence of weight gain, according to Institute of Medicine 2009 recommendation, on spontaneous preterm delivery in twin pregnancies

Version: 0 Date: 01 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Margaret L. Holland

Reviewer's report:

While this study reports on an interesting and important topic (impact of gestational weight gain on birth outcomes for twin births), there are some weaknesses in the presentation that need to be addressed before this should be published. In addition, the unclear presentation makes it difficult to thoroughly review the methods and interpretation.

There is a concerning inconsistency in how the authors describe how this study fits with the previous literature. Several related studies are described and these citations are used to justify certain methodological decisions. However, the authors also state that this is the first study to do the analyses described (p. 11, lines 13 - 18). If this study differs from those previous studies in an important way, this needs to be clarified. The authors should be clear on what this study adds to the literature - if it is a replication in a different population, that's ok, just be clear about it.

Although it has been used once before, I would still like to see more justification for assuming that weight gain is linear. (I.e., that it is ok to adjust for weight gain for preterm births by calculating weekly weight gains using term cutoffs/37 weeks.) Given how critical this is to your study, it seems like it deserves more attention.

Language: There are numerous grammatical errors through the manuscript. Although I tend to consider this a minor issue, some are substantial enough to impact understanding and therefore need to be addressed before a decision about publication is made. For instance, a test is described as a Fisher test. Does that refer to the Fisher's Exact Test?

The tables would benefit from more description. For instance, in Table 2: is there a column missing, for statistical significance for overweight? It would be helpful to add a little more detail describing this table and clarifying what the statistical significance is testing.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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