Reviewer’s report

Title: The Short-Term Economic Burden of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus in Italy.

Version: 0 Date: 06 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Maisa Feghali

Reviewer’s report:

The authors report on the short-term economic burden of gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) in Italy. They built a model primarily using maternal data from a national Italian database and neonatal data from a retrospective study in the United States of America and limited cost estimates to the 3rd trimester of pregnancy. The study highlights the financial burden of GDM at a national level. However, there were a few issues that warrant further attention:

1. The authors report a GDM prevalence rate of 10.9%. The maternal database used for cost estimation included 11,540 women diagnosed with GDM a rate of 2.6%. The authors report this discrepancy in the discussion session, but do not provide a sufficient explanation for this difference. Also, the authors do not comment about why they chose to proceed with the rate of 10.9% or how different rates may impact the model and cost estimation.

2. The authors described using rates of neonatal outcomes from a retrospective study because of a lack of a linked maternal-child database that would allow them to estimate the rate of neonatal outcomes. The study used is a retrospective study of 36,241 women with a singleton pregnancy at term who received prenatal care and delivered at the University of California San Francisco between 1982 and 2006. The authors are encouraged to compare the rates of neonatal outcomes of interest in Italy in 2014 to those extracted from the retrospective study given the difference in location and period of time.

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

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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

Yes
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:

Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal