Reviewer’s report

Title: Are preterm birth and intra-uterine growth restriction more common in Western Australian children of immigrant backgrounds? A population based data linkage study.

Version: 1 Date: 02 Feb 2018

Reviewer: Kelli Ryckman

Reviewer’s report:

This is a nicely written manuscript describing birth outcome differences based on immigrant status in Australia.

My only major issue is with the interpretation of table 2. Statements are made that the risk is higher for foreign born women for preterm but the table indicates relative risks that are not significant as the confidence intervals cross one. I think the conclusions are stated too strongly for instances where the CI crosses 1. This is true for some of the other tables and conclusions drawn as well.

My second concern is the focus of the discussion. The discussion is very long and some of the material like talking about ASD is a little out of scope and some of the points should be shortened in order to not overinterpret your findings.

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.

Yes

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

No

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

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