Reviewer's report

Title: Nutrition practice, compliance to guidelines and postnatal growth in moderately premature babies: the NUTRIQUAL French survey.

Version: 2 Date: 21 July 2015

Reviewer: Harrie HN Lafeber

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Premature born infants show less extra uterine growth retardation if they are fed with higher parenteral and enteral caloric intake. This is proven for VLBW preterm infants but not for moderate LBW preterm infants. In this paper it is suggested that also fin LBW infants better extra-uterine growth can be observed when they are fed with higher intakes. The evidence was obtained by data from questionnaires of 29 French NICU's. The analysis of the data was performed using correct statistical methods. The authors clearly indicate the limitations of the study. Therefore it is difficult to make statements about the optimal level of the AA intake in relation to the total caloric intake. Therefore it is better to leave out statements about the cumulative AA intake like line 217-219. This statement should be limited to: a better nutritional intake. Another aspect that is not clear from this survey is the fact whether or not the use of CVL for aggressive TPN contributes to the incidence of sepsis. It would be nice if this info was available. Overall this paper has important information regarding nutrition education of peri-/neonatologists.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

no competing interests