Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence of suspected developmental delays in early infancy: Results from a regional population-based longitudinal study

Version: 3 Date: 11 October 2015

Reviewer: Rebecca Baum

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
The authors have responded effectively to the reviewers’ suggestions, and this revision represents a significant improvement from the original submission. The authors are to be commended for writing in a language that is not their primary means of communication. However, several grammatical errors remain and should be addressed prior to publication. Examples can be found in the abstract (lines 59-60), p 4 (lines 94, 98), p 7 (line 171), and p 9 (lines 196, 201).

Minor Compulsory Revisions
On p 4 lines 102-103, suggest changing text to “One of the validated screening tools recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics is the Ages and Stages Questionnaire…” AAP does not typically endorse specific measures but instead recommends tools such as the ASQ and others (PEDS).

The clarity of the last sentence on p 5 that describes the study’s aims could be improved, specifically the phrase regarding associations of SDD. It currently reads that the “…aim of the study was to…estimate associations of SDD with gender, a gestational age of < 37 weeks….”

In Table 3, please include a definition for footnote “a.” Also, please consider spelling out the word “prevalence” to improve clarity.

Discretionary Revisions
Consider summarizing the information on lines 282-287 on p 11 as that level of detail may not be needed in the manuscript.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.