Reviewer's report

Title: No effect of adding dairy lipids or long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids on formula tolerance and growth in full term infants: a randomized controlled trial

Version: 0 Date: 18 Nov 2016

Reviewer: C Anthony Ryan

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written paper of a randomised controlled trial on infant formula with dairy lipids and plant oils. The Population (healthy infants less than 3 weeks) is clearly described. The Intervention is clear. There is a Control group who receive a formula containing plant oils only. There is also an exclusively fed breastfeeding group of infants that is referred to as a reference group. Outcomes were predefined and the trial was registered in ClinicalTrials.gov.

In the Methods section it is stated that the sample size for this study was published in a previous publication (reference 10). Since this study showed no differences in between the groups in terms of physical growth, I think it is important to include the sample size calculation for the specific outcomes presented in this manuscript. Also, in the limitations section in the Discussion, it would be useful for the authors to state what % difference between the groups would have been detected by the chosen sample size.

I note that the authors did not use the Wessel criteria for the definition of colic. This might explain the high incidence of colic in their study groups, particularly a one month of age and should be mentioned in the Discussion. Also what did the authors meaning what did the parents record as "large amounts" of regurgitation of milk.

One if five infants from the formula groups and a third of infant in the breastfeeding groups withdrew from the study. The reasons for the formula group withdrawals are given but the reasons for the breastfeeding group withdrawals are, as far as I can ascertain, not given. This would be useful information for future researchers.
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.

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:

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