Reviewer’s report

Title: Warning about drinking during pregnancy: lessons from the French experience

Version: 0 Date: 13 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Lee Ann Kaskutas

Reviewer's report:

This is a very clear article that provides information previously not known. It finds that pregnant and postpartum women think it is ok to have 2 drinks/day of wine during pregnancy, and that spirits is worse than other beverages in terms of risk. There are few issues with the methods or the writing. There are two places where a minor revision would be helpful. The first is when the authors specify their response categories for drinking. It states that the variable is abstainer versus drinker or smoker. That led me to believe, until reading several paragraphs later, that being a drinker or being a smoker was a single combined variable, comparing that combined 'either drinker or smoker' variable to 'abstainer'. This should be rewritten to make it perfectly clear that there are two sets of comparisons, one comparing abstainers to drinkers and another comparing abstainers to smokers. In other words, make it clear that you aren't equating drinking with smoking when you are studying how abstainers differ from something else. The second minor revision similarly pertains to how categorical variables are described. In one of the findings, authors write about women age 35 or more versus women age 25 or more. These are overlapping variables and I must say, this type of error is surprising given the quality of the article. Perhaps therefore I have not read the paper quite carefully enough to understand how that statement actually is methodologically correct.

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