Reviewer’s report

Title: Detection of hepatitis C virus RNA in saliva of patients with active infection not associated with periodontal or liver disease severity

Version: 4
Date: 22 November 2013

Reviewer: Ching-Sheng Hsu

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

According to this revision, I have the following 3 suggestions,
1. There remains no solid data supporting that the presence of HCV in saliva is an effective HCV transmission route, and the authors need to discuss this point in their manuscript.
2. The calculated sample size is 80, but the sample size of this study is 45. That means that this study can not detect a significant difference between groups, and the authors need to discuss this point in their manuscript.
3. According to the reply "In our work we mentioned two clinical parameters in patients, in order to obtain other data related with the severity of liver disease. Prothrombine time and platelets counts are important parameters may be associated with bleeding of bucal cavity, therefore may be associated with a higher probability of infection through saliva, however, none of two parameters was statistically associated with presence of HCV RNA in saliva.”, the authors need to add this explanation into their manuscript.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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