Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Relationship between tooth loss and mortality in 80-year-old Japanese community-dwelling subjects

**Version:** 2 **Date:** 28 September 2009

**Reviewer:** LEONARDO MARCHINI

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions

Pages 5 and 6: Methods: Study population: Do the 1,282 individuals represent the entire population of Kyushu Island who were 80 years old? Please clarify. What is the power of this sample (n=697)? Please include this information.

Page 8: Results: First paragraph: "In the 4-year follow-up, 108 of the subjects (58 males, 58 females) died..." There is some misinformation here: 58+58=116, and not 108. What is the right number? Please clarify and correct throughout the text.

Discretionary Revisions

Page 10: Discussion: line 07: "... males who never- smoked males at the...". There are two "males", the last should be removed.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests