Reviewer’s report

Title: Periodontal disease and atherosclerosis from the viewpoint of the relationship between Community Periodontal Index of Treatment Needs (CPITN) and Brachial-Ankle Pulse Wave Velocity (baPWV).

Version: 2 Date: 23 November 2005

Reviewer: philippe hujoel

Reviewer’s report:

General

This is a well-written article on an important topic. The article is well written and provides a valuable contribution to the literature

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

None

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1) Delete first sentence in abstract
2) Provide case-control ratio and descriptive results on perio condition in both groups
3) Delete correlation coefficient and focus on odds ratios

Background

-too long. Needs shortening
- focus more on baPWV measure- what has been published on this - what is it?
- periodontal disease is not always treatable or preventable - delete.

M&M

- well-trained nurses? Explain
- replace "well-used" with "commonly-used"?
- No correlation coefficient, stick with odds ratios

Results

- table 1 - make 1 column for cases; 1 column for controls
- table 2 - include in table 1
- table 3 - delete
- table 4 - very nice!
- limit discussion in result to 3 tables

Discussion

- discuss weaknesses of study
  (cross-sectional nature; imperfect measurement of confounders; lack of temporal information)
Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

**What next?:** Accept after minor essential revisions

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare I have no competing interest