Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Periodontal disease-associated micro-organisms in peri-menopausal and post-menopausal women using or not using hormone replacement therapy. A two-year follow-up study.

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 2 March 2010

**Reviewer:** Rutger Persson

**Reviewer’s report:**

Major compulsory revision:

In the conclusion you concluded that the microbiota of interest decreased in HRT users and not in non HRT users. At the same time you concluded that the periodontal conditions did not change differently between groups. Does this suggests that the microbiological findings/bacteria presence is irrelevant to periodontitis in relation to HRT or no HRT use.

Please revisit statistical methods used. The changes in parameter values are what you should consider taking in account changes in smoking habits, other medications, and disease status i.e. CVD.

**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