Author's response to reviews

Title: Contextual and Individual Assessment of Dental pain period prevalence in adolescents: a multilevel approach

Authors:

Marco A Peres (mperes@ccs.ufsc.br)
Karen G Peres (karengp@ccs.ufsc.br)
Antonio C Frias (acfrias@usp.br)
José Leopoldo F Antunes (leopoldo@usp.br)

Version: 4 Date: 2 August 2010

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Natalie,

On behalf of all authors, I am submitting the revised fourth version of the manuscript of Contextual and Individual Assessment of Dental pain period prevalence in adolescents: a multilevel approach to your appreciation and to editorial analysis of the BMC Oral Health, as to the possibility of its publication.

The text has been revised according to indications of reviewer. Once again we thank comments and suggestions, which we truly believe contributed to improve the text. We have prepared a response to the reviewer, addressing each of their comments. Each of the modification is in bold words in the new version of the manuscript. We believe that all of the reviewers concerns have been addressed in this new version of the manuscript.

The manuscript has not been published before, and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. We agree to assign exclusive copyright to the BMC Oral Health if and when the manuscript is accepted for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Marco Aurélio Peres
REVIEWER 1

Reviewer: Anne Nordrehaug Astrom

Review of the revised ms: Contextual and individual assessment of dental pain period prevalence in adolescents: a multilevel approach

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential revisions

Review of the second revision of the manuscript:
Contextual and individual assessment of dental pain period prevalence in adolescents: a multilevel approach

The article has improved considerably and I am satisfied with most changes undertaken. However, the authors avoid following the recommended set up of the results of table 3 (see previous comments), demonstrating the HDI dental pain association for each block of independents entered into the model. In the aim the authors maintain that they set out to assess whether the HDI remains associated with dental pain after controlled for individual------

Considering the way the authors present their results without emphasize on mediation of effect I suggest the aim to be changed to “whether HDI is independently associated with dental pain after adjusting for individual level variables of socio-demographics and dental characteristics”.

Authors: We would like to thank you for your comments and suggestions, which we truly believe contributed to improve the text. We have changed the aim of the study according to your suggestion.

Reviewer

English language should be edited – still not satisfactory.

Authors: This new version of the manuscript has been reviewed by a professional English native speaker.