Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 3 Date: 25 July 2010

Reviewer: Anne Nordrehaug Astrom

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 pf 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”.

English language should be edited – still not satisfactory

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests