Reviewer's report

Title: Dental Health, Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factors, and Systemic Inflammation in a Pediatric Rural Community Cohort

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Reviewer: Gregory John J Seymour

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The aim of this paper was to examine the relationship between self (parent) reported dental health, systemic inflammation and cardiovascular disease risk factors in children. The participants were already part of a community based program that included anthropometric assessments and blood screening. Overall the results are as expected with measures of dental health being associated with some but not all markers of systemic inflammation and some markers of cardiovascular disease risk. These latter markers were primarily also markers of obesity. This is the first demonstration of these associations in children and as such make an important contribution.

The authors may care to discuss the relationship childhood obesity and oral health as this an extremely important area and should be highlighted.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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