Reviewer’s report

Title: Cross-sectional evaluation of the periapical status as related to quality of root canal fillings and coronal restorations in a rural adult male population of Turkey

Version: 1 Date: 27 January 2011

Reviewer: Juan Jose Segura-Egea

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript entitled “CROSS-SECTIONAL EVALUATION OF THE PERIAPICAL STATUS AS RELATED TO QUALITY OF ROOT CANAL FILLINGS AND CORONAL RESTORATIONS IN A RURAL ADULT MALE POPULATION OF TURKEY” is a well written investigation, however there are some drawbacks that authors must answer and correct before the publication of the paper.

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? Yes

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? Yes.

But there two methodological drawbacks:

First.- Authors must explain more precisely how the calibration of the observers was performed. The Cohen’s kappa statistic must be mentioned.

Second.- Apical periodontitis as well as root canal treatment have been reported to be highly prevalent in diabetic and in smoker patients. Have been asked the patients respect these or others diseases / habits?

3. Are the data sound? Yes

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? Yes

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? Yes. However, authors must discuss the possibility that systemic diseases such as diabetes or coronary heart disease, as well as smoking habits, could influence the prevalence of apical periodontitis and root canal treatment.

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? Yes

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? Yes

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes

9. Is the writing acceptable? Yes. However, authors must use the expression
“root-filled teeth” in relation with teeth endodontically treated.

Decision: Accept after minor essential revisions (which the authors can be trusted to make).

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.