Reviewer's report

Title: Single-tooth replacement: Factors affecting different prosthetic treatment modalities

Version: 4 Date: 1 March 2011

Reviewer: Torsten T Mundt

Reviewer's report:

My major concern about the mixture of missing anterior and posterior teeth could not be considered because these data were not assessed. To my opinion, the reasons for tooth replacement (esthetics, function, demand, ability for oral hygiene, speech) and the satisfaction are primarily dependent on the position of the missing tooth. For example, it is most likely that the control group included patients who did particularly show missing posterior teeth. Without statement about the site of the missing tooth the present evaluation is quite worthless.

See also:


Schuurs AHB, Duivenvoorden HJ, Thoden van Velzen SK, Verhage F, Maakes PC.


Only the factors for the choice of the prosthetic treatment modality (table 6) are less associated with the position of the tooth gap. However, if I have understood aright, most of the study participants received the dental treatment free of charge or at a very low price. Therefore, also the data of table 6 are strongly biased.
Furthermore, the statistical analysis is restricted to simple univariate comparisons. Confounding variables (age, sex, education, income) were not (or could not be) considered.

The discussion is much too long and very speculative.

In this form, the manuscript is not acceptable for publication.

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no financial or other competing interests regarding the publication of the manuscript.