Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and Risk Indicators of Gingivitis and Periodontitis in a Multi-Centre Study in North Jordan: a cross sectional case-control study.

Version: 1 Date: 26 May 2011

Reviewer: Javier Enrique Botero

Reviewer's report:

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

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
   No. Unfortunately, there are some concerns about the methods.
   Gingivitis and health are not defined, so it is not possible to determine what the characteristics of these conditions were.
   The definition of CP is not well made.

3. Are the data sound?
   No. Given that diagnosis is not clear, the data presented is also not clear.
   Table 3 is related to CP or AgP?
   No clinical data regarding BOP, CAL and PD means are reported according to diagnosis. This way we can see the actual periodontal condition of the subjects in each category.

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
   No. the main problem is the diagnosis.

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
   Partially. The great majority of subjects had gingivitis, but it is not possible to determine the accuracy of these findings.

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
   No.

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
   No.

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
   It correlates with what’s presented, but the data is not clear.
9. Is the writing acceptable?
Yes.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
All the above mentioned should be addressed before submitting it again.

Assessment of the manuscript:
Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions.

Level of interest:
An article of limited interest

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

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests