Author’s response to reviews

Title: Stem cells in Dentistry: knowledge and attitude of Nigerian Dentists

Authors:

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Author’s response to reviews:

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to publish our research in your highly esteemed journal. The manuscript has been modified following the reviewers’ reports and they are outlined below:

Reviewer’s report
Title: Stem cells in Dentistry: knowledge and attitude of Nigerian Dentists
Version: 2 Date: 30 January 2013
Reviewer: Peter Murray

Reviewer’s report:
I congratulate the authors on this interesting research study. I found the manuscript to be interesting and relevant to dental practice. There have been a few other studies, but not based in Nigeria, so the research observations are novel. I recommend the Editor consider the manuscript for publication following some very minor changes. If the Editor is lacking room for publishing all the tables, some tables that do not show significant differences in survey responses may be removed. My comments are grammatical to try and help improve the clarity of the manuscript:

Abstract
1. Page 2. Line 1. “Objective: To determine…” I suggest objective be changed to “investigate” or “survey” whichever the authors like.

1. Page 2. Line 1. “Objective: To determine…” has been changed to investigate.

2. Page 2. Line 5. “…possessed additional qualification…” This is a bit ambiguous, please consider changing it to “postgraduate qualification”?

2. Page 2. Line 5. “…possessed additional qualification…has been changed to postgraduate qualification
3. Page 2. Line 17: I am not sure that the last sentence of the abstract is necessary because it is a bit unclear, perhaps it can be removed?
3. Page 2. Line 17: The last sentence of the abstract has been removed.

Introduction

4. Page 4. Line 2. Note the extra period “.” To be removed from the sentence.
4. Page 4. Line 2. the extra period has been removed from the sentence.

5. Page 5. Line 4. I suggest a change from “Search revealed..” to “A literature search revealed..”
5. Page 5. Line 4. Search revealed has been changed to A literature search revealed.

6. Page 5. Line 9: I suggest the word “determine” be changed to “investigate.”
6. Page 5. Line 9: determine has been changed to investigate.

Materials and Methods

7. Page 5. Line 22. The tool of data has been changed to The survey.

8. Page 5. Line 25. The has been placed infront of Content.

9. Page 6. Line 3. open and close ended has been changed to closed.


11. Page 7. Line 4. The level of statistical significance is missing. I suggest the following be added “at a significance of P<0.05.”
11. Page 7. Line 4. at a significance of P<0.05 has been added

Results

12. Page 8. Line 12: Additional qualifications has been changed to Postgraduate qualifications.

Discussion

13. Page 9. Line 15: of a new natural tooth has been added
14. Page 11. Line 7: I suggest “as non significant” be changed to “because a.”
14. Page 11. Line 7: non significant has been changed to because a.
15. Page 11. Line 8: I suggest “while: be changed to a “had a.”
15. Page 11. Line 8: while has been changed to had a.
16. Page 11. and an overall has been added

References
17. All appear relevant and acceptable, you could also add the new survey article published by “Manguno.”
17. The new survey article published by “Manguno has been included in the reference

Tables
18. If the Editor is lacking space to publish all the tables, some tables/data without significant differences in responses may be removed.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable
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

Reviewer's report
Title: Stem cells in Dentistry: knowledge and attitude of Nigerian Dentists
Version: 2 Date: 20 April 2013
Reviewer: Abiodun Arigbede
Reviewer's report:
Minor essential revision
Level of interest: An article of importance 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.
Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests

COMMENTS OF THE REVIEWER

Minor essential revision

Abstract

Under the objective, the 1st sentence should read “to determine the awareness, attitude and knowledge of the use of stem cells in Dentistry among Nigerian dentists…….”

Under the objective, the 1st sentence should read “to investigate the awareness, attitude and knowledge of the use of stem cells in Dentistry among Nigerian dentists…….”

3rd line under the abstract………..the expression “from both private and public health sector” should read from both private and public health sectors

3rd line under the abstract………..the expression “from both private and public health sector” is now from both private and public health sectors

in the 4th line, the expression”…. major cities of Nigeria” should read “major cities in Nigeria..”

in the 4th line, the expression”…. major cities of Nigeria is now read major cities in Nigeria..”

Still on the 4th line, the expression….aged #35years should read …were #35years in age…

Still on the 4th line, the expression….aged #35years is now were #35years in age…

In the 8th line of the abstract, the sentence “The overall good/fair knowledge….should read “Most of the respondents had a poor knowledge of the use of stem cells in Dentistry.

In the 8th line of the abstract, the sentence “The overall good/fair knowledge….is now Most of the respondents had a poor knowledge of the use of stem cells in Dentistry.

In the 11th line of the abstract, the statement “Three-quarters-142 (75.1%) of the …. Should read “About three-quarters (75.1%) of the …..

In the 11th line of the abstract, the statement “Three-quarters-142 (75.1%) is now “About three-quarters (75.1%) of the …..

The conclusion should read……revealed high level of awareness, positive attitude and poor knowledge of the use of stem cells in Dentistry among a cross-section of Nigerian Dentists.

The conclusion is now revealed high level of awareness, positive attitude and poor knowledge of the use of stem cells in Dentistry among a cross-section of Nigerian Dentists.
Introduction
In the 3rd line, the expression ....and also the ability proliferate should read .....and also the ability to proliferate.
In the 3rd line, the expression ....and also the ability proliferate now reads .....and also the ability to proliferate.

Also in the 4th line, the expression ..in theory therefore, stem cells can therefore divide should read .....in theory, stem cells can therefore, divide......
Also in the 4th line, the expression ..in theory therefore, stem cells can therefore divide now reads .....in theory, stem cells can therefore, divide......

3rd paragraph, 1st line, the statement “ Stem cells directed to differentiation......should read stem cells directed to differentiate”....

3rd paragraph, 1st line, the statement “ Stem cells directed to differentiation......now reads stem cells directed to differentiate”....

In the 3rd line, The expression ......Parkinson and Alzheimer disease should read Parkinson and Alzheimer diseases.
In the 3rd line, The expression ......Parkinson and Alzheimer disease now reads Parkinson and Alzheimer diseases.

Page 4, 2nd line, remove full stop before the statement stem cells have been reportedly......
Page 4, 2nd line, full stop has been removed

The last line on page 4, the expression....the moral status of an embryo......should read...the moral concerns regarding embryo destruction.
The last line on page 4, the expression....the moral status of an embryo......now reads...the moral concerns regarding embryo destruction.

Page 5, 3rd line, the sentence....Dentistry is not spared these....should read ..Dentistry is not spared of these...
Page 5, 3rd line, the sentence....Dentistry is not spared these....now reads Dentistry is not spared of these...

Page 5, 4th line...the sentence “Search revealed.....should read “Literature search revealed”.....
Page 5, 4th line...the sentence “Search revealed.....now reads “Literature search revealed”.....

Page 5, 5th line, The expression.....in medicine and dentistry should read “in
Medicine and Dentistry”

Page 5, 5th line, The expression….in medicine and dentistry now reads “in Medicine and Dentistry”

The objective of the study as stated in the last sentence of the introduction should be reviewed line with the suggestion given under the abstract
This has been done.

Materials and Methods

2nd line, the expression private and public sector should read private and public sectors in randomly selected major cities in the southern part of ….or in a cross-section of major cities….

2nd line, the expression private and public sector now reads private and public sectors in randomly selected major cities in the southern part of

2nd paragraph, 1st line, the sentence “The tool of data was self-administered….should read..The tool for data collection was a…. 

2nd paragraph, 1st line, the sentence “The tool of data was self-administered….now reads as The survey as suggested by the first reviewer.

Page 6, section A, 2nd line, the expression….variables and awareness of stem cells use in dentistry should read….variables, awareness and source of information of stem cells use in Dentistry. The last statement in section A should be deleted.

Page 6, section A, 2nd line, the expression….variables and awareness of stem cells use in dentistry now reads….variables, awareness and source of information of stem cells use in Dentistry. The last statement in section A has been deleted.

Section B, 1st line, the statement “Here, structured knowledge questions assessed general knowledge should read “Here, structured questions were used to assess general knowledge…. 

Section B, 1st line, the statement “Here, structured knowledge questions assessed general knowledge now reads “Here, structured questions were used to assess general knowledge…. 

Section C, the 1st line should read “ This section was made up of twelve items and a four-point Likert scale ("strongly agree", “agree”, “disagree” and “strongly disagree”) was used to assess the response of the participants as regard their attitude to the use of stem cells in Dentistry. 

Section C, the 1st line now reads “ This section was made up of twelve items and a four-point Likert scale ("strongly agree", “agree”, “disagree” and “strongly disagree”) was used to assess the response of the participants as regard their attitude to the use of stem cells in Dentistry.

Results

1st line, the expression…..189 of them were returned filled…should read…..189
questionnaires all properly filled were returned giving…. (NB: incomplete or incorrectly filled questionnaires would have been excluded even though they were returned).

1st line, the expression…..189 of them were returned filled…now reads…..189 questionnaires all properly filled were returned giving….

4th line, the expression…participants were aged 35 years or less…should read participants were 35years old or less,
4th line, the expression…participants were aged 35 years or less…now reads participants were 35years old or less,

7th line, the expression… were the four leading field of practice……should read…..were the four leading fields of practice.
7th line, the expression… were the four leading field of practice……now reads…..were the four leading fields of practice.

Page 8, 2nd line..the Sentence “However it was only…should read “However, it was only….
Page 8, 2nd line..the Sentence “However it was only…now read “However, it was only….

Page 8, Figure 1 is not necessary since the information expression in the figure is full captured within the text.If you want the figure retained, then only the sources with the highest and lowest scores should be captured within the text.
Page 8, Figure 1 The leading source of information regarding stem cells was conference/symposium/seminar 67 (43.8%) while mass media 14 (9.2%) was the least source of information among the participants.

Line 7, the sentence ‘The overall good/fair knowledge about..should be replaced with..Most of the respondents had poor knowledge about the use of stem cells in dentistry ( NB: If about 40% had either good or fair knowledge, it means most of them were not knowledgeable).

Line 7, the sentence ‘The overall good/fair knowledge about now reads Most of the respondents had poor knowledge about the use of stem cells in dentistry

5th line from the end of result…The sentence “Thee-quarters should read about three-quarters..
5th line from the end of result…The sentence “Thee-quarters now reads about three-quarters..

Discussion
4th line, the statement about one-third of the participants…… should be removed. The statement is already captured in the result. You did not compare your sample size with reports from previous publications; therefore, the conjecture about increased training opportunity and improved remuneration accounting for high number of specialists and those specializing in the study had no foundation. Compare your results with previous reports involving specialists
and residents. Naturally, dental schools provide a pool of specialists and residents and these are readily accessible compared to private practitioners who are usually scattered. Many General hospitals either have limited number of specialist or none. If you were looking at your result in line with the above, recast your statement.

Page 11, line 3, your study did not show high level of knowledge as insinuated
Page 11, line 3, is now changed to poor knowledge

Page 11, end of 1st line, please, remove full stop after the references.
Page 11, end of 1st line, full stop has been removed.

Conclusion
Please, refer to the comment on conclusion under the abstract
This has been taken into correction.

Assessment
1. The question posed by the authors was very much valid
2. The method was most appropriate and well described
3. The data was sound
4. The manuscript adhered to the relevant standard for reporting and data disposition
5. The discussion and conclusion was well balanced and well supported by data
6. Limitation of the work was not defined.
7. The references was adequate
8. The title and abstract clearly conveyed what was found
9. The writing is beautiful and worthy of acceptance