Reviewer's report

Title: Malocclusion, dental aesthetic self-perception and quality of life in male young adults: a cross section study

Version: 1 Date: 19 October 2012

Reviewer: Ali Farahani

Reviewer's report:

Interesting paper but it needs substantial revision before publication, the manuscript will need multiple revisions before publication

Title, it does not represent the study, please change it to:
Malocclusion, dental aesthetic self-perception and quality of life in a 18 to 21 year old population: a cross section study

Please remove the 1st and 2nd sentence of the background as it is not relevant to the topic of this research. Remove the corresponding parts of the introduction as well.

Instead you can put a small paragraph about the long term effect of malocclusion on general or oral health/psychological (which is minimal). The relevant citations should be:
Seminars in Orthodontics, Volume 18, Issue 3, September 2012, Pages 210–216

2nd paragraph in the introduction is not accurate, there is no evidence that malocclusion can affect the psychosocial well-being or dental health in the long term, read the articles mentioned above and the following articles and rewrite this paragraph:
A review of the evidence supporting the aesthetic orthodontic treatment need indices, Progress in Orthodontics, doi:10.1016/j.pio.2012.03.003
A review of the evidence supporting the aesthetic orthodontic treatment need indices, Progress in Orthodontics, doi: 10.1016/j.pio.2012.03.003

Rewrite the 3rd paragraph
Remove or rewrite the 4th paragraph, issues have been mentioned earlier
Change methods section to subjects and methods
The ethical approval shouldn’t be at the end of methods section, please add it in the beginning of this section
Why Brazilian Army soldiers were used as the study sample
Add separate sub-heading for the assessments used in the study, DAI, DMFT,
dental aesthetic self-perception and quality of life

Add a separate heading for statistical analysis

Please separate the results and discussion.

I can see that the DMFT and DAI were calculated, please assess the relationship between these two variables, the relevant citation could be Acta Odontol Scand. 2011 Jan;69(1):2-11. Please read it and compare your results with it.

Shortcoming of the Aesthetic orthodontic indices should be mentioned, particularly the subjectivity associated with the use of these indices. Authors should mention that the DAI does not represent all occlusal traits, this has been explained before in one of the articles I mentioned before:

A review of the evidence supporting the aesthetic orthodontic treatment need indices, Progress in Orthodontics, doi:10.1016/j.pio.2012.03.003

The literature review is deficient. Some important papers are missing including the following ones, please read them and rewrite the discussion and introduction accordingly


The findings of DMFT and DAI should be compared with other populations in the discussion section

Rewrite the conclusion after reading the articles mentioned earlier, there are some strong comments in it, which are not necessarily true.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the
statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I do not have competing interest