Reviewer's report

Title: The traditional practice of canine bud removal in the offspring of Ethiopian immigrants.

Version: 1 Date: 1 May 2013

Reviewer: paul edwards

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A few minor suggestions are offered:
1. In the abstract, instead of “similar low socioeconomic class”. I would suggest changing it to “of similar socioeconomic class”
2. The term “veteran Israeli” is confusing. Please define or use another word.
3. The Conclusion jumps from an observation (“The prevalence of missing primary canines and dental defects was among offspring of parents who had emigrated from Ethiopia 15-20 years earlier than among offspring of veteran parents living in the same low socioeconomic neighborhoods”) directly to a suggestion on how to prevent the process (“Parental education of the detrimental consequences of canine bud removal is warranted”), without making any explicit statements as to the conclusion.
4. In the Abstract, please specify the that enamel defects were only counted if on the adjacent teeth to the primary canines

Have the authors published the findings from this cohort anywhere else?

Representative images of the different classes of enamel defects should be included.

Please include data as to whether the children in the Ethiopian group were born in Israel or Ethiopia.

Please quantify and reference the statement that “Missing canines in the primary dentition is a rare finding in children”. Also, why “in children”? Do you expect to see this in adults?

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
No