Reviewer’s report

Title: Dental health behavior of parents of children using non-fluoride toothpaste: a cross-sectional study

Version: 2
Date: 31 October 2013

Reviewer: Toshihiro Ansai

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions:
1. Most critical issue was that there was limited information of responders including parents, socioeconomic status (SES) such as education, annual income, dental and medical behaviour, etc.

2. Methods, page 6: regarding the location of 18 elementary schools, please mention information concerning a population size, the SES of the area.

3. Methods, page 6: regarding the response of questionnaire, how many times have they mailed? Just one time or several times? If so, what response rate of the first mail and the other mails? Please mention the details.

4. Methods, page 6: regarding a responder, who responded the questionnaire? All of them were parents or rather father or mother? Or if it was someone except parents, who did? Please add any information.

5. Result, Table 3: regarding “contain fluoride”, “No” was significantly associated. Those points should be deeply discussed. In page 14, some sentences were described, but should be discussed from the multiple points.

The authors mentioned that the responders (parents) have better knowledge and behaviour in terms of dental health in page 14. If so, the responders may have enough knowledge including side effects of the fluoride. Why did they select the non-fluoride toothpaste? This point is very interesting to the readers, and a critical point upon the quality of the manuscript.

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:

I have no competing interests.