Reviewer's report

Title: Characteristics associated with the use of public dental services by the adult population of the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil

Version: 1 Date: 2 April 2014

Reviewer: Maria Cristina MCTG Cangussu

Reviewer's report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
   YES
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
   Partly. See the comments
3. Are the data sound?
   Yes
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
   Yes
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
   Partly. See the comments
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
   Yes
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
   Yes
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
   Yes
9. Is the writing acceptable?
   Yes

This was an excellent manuscript, with the theme centered on the real health needs of the Brazilian, relevant and of paramount importance for public health dentistry in population because the authors discuss the adult population and risk factors that contribute to access the various types of financioamento of dental services.

Nevertheless this, there is little doubt that I would like to see clearer in the text:

- In - Introduction and discussion of public services in Brazil grantem inclusion
and equity or exclusion? Despite their arguments, the focus of empirical data falls on the second point, an exclusive and affordable system for the poor and poorly educated and excluded. They had to leave their clearest chance;

- Over-analysis the authors used dummy variables? They should address more explicitly. The review process needs to be clearer - the criteria for maintaining the variable in the model was just empirical? At no time was the theoretical decision? IN a few moments analysis looks more like the factorial analysis.

In the tables, the authors need to standardize data - classes começar always the risk, or referent. There is a mix in this regard. I would like to reinforce the importance of the themes of this article, congratulate the use of databases available to serious analysis and effective development of the Brazilian health system contribution, of which he is the reflection

**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 declare that I have no competing interests