Reviewer's report

Title: Oral Status, Oral Health knowledge, Attitudes and Behavior in rural children of Shanxi, western China

Version: 3 Date: 13 July 2014

Reviewer: Deyu Hu

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
1 The English writing is not totally acceptable. Please consider consulting with a native-English speaking medical writer to assist in a revision.
2 Within Method Section Clinical Examination: should provide information for the within and between observer reliability of the scoring systems used to examine dental caries and periodontal condition.
3 How did the authors arrive at the sample size of 424 for 4-to 6 year-olds and 564 for 12-to 15 year-olds? Please provide a power analysis.
4 Should state the limitation of the study.

Minor Essential Revisions
1 Suggest revising “oral status” in title to :“oral health status”.
2 The Results Section of the abstract, line 61: revise “relatively” to “respectively”.
3 It would be useful to report whether there were any statistical differences between male and female subjects when reporting data.

Discretionary Revisions
1 Should acknowledge in the Discussion what is the difference between the current data found in the rural subjects and those found in subjects residing in the economically developed areas in the world, and what suggestions could be drawn from the comparison for future prevention strategies in the current research area?

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

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.