Reviewer's report

Title: Five-year follow-up of children receiving comprehensive dental care under general anesthesia

Version: 1 Date: 18 November 2014

Reviewer: Peter Day

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

Thank you very much for submitting your paper. I enjoyed reading it. I feel it is an important piece of research owing to its long-term follow up and the low level of attrition within the cohort over the five-year period.

Minor Essential Revisions

There are a few areas that do need attention:
- Please review the choice of English language used? I have given a few examples. It may help for a native English speaker to read the paper.
- Please review the statistical section – I am uncertain what your primary outcome was when undertaking these statistical tests – for example the logistic and linear regression. Secondly you have a large number of variables, please comment on any adjustment you made for multiple testing
- Please review your aim – do you mean the outcomes of dental care or the treatment provided?

Please clarify for readers who are not familiar with Finnish dental system – what does sedation means – is this inhalation sedation, oral midazolam, rectal midazolam.

Please clarify who plans and provides the dental care under general anaesthetics – have they undergone specialist training in paediatric dentistry?

Please clarify – counting of tooth treatment, can the tooth be counted more than once e.g. if a tooth has an endodontic procedure and a preformed metal crown – what is this counted as

Please detail in the broad summary what proportion of fillings were stainless steel crowns and what proportion were plastic restorations

How many had bitewings prior to or during their general anaesthetic

Does the further treatment relate to fresh caries or does it relate to further work on the already restored tooth

P6 L125 and P8 L176 – would change wording to robust or rigorous -? May be
beneficial to mention the appropriate and regular use of fluorides

P6 – L138 – what was the reason for dropouts?

P7 L142 – English

Non – cooperation – change to uncooperative, how was extreme dental fear measured or are they simply tick boxes completed on a GA referral form

What is control of dental fear visit – do you mean behaviour management and acclimatisation

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

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