Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and distribution of Actinobacillus actinomycetemcomitans and its cdt gene in subgingival plaque of Chinese periodontitis patients

Version: 2 Date: 18 February 2014

Reviewer: Fuhua Yan

Reviewer's report:

Comments

This manuscript covers an interesting and important topic in the field of periodontitis. The authors have elucidated the distribution of A. actinomycetemcomitans and the prevalence of its cdt gene in Chinese subjects and explore the importance of obtaining both A. actinomycetemcomitans titer and genotype identification in periodontitis microbiological diagnosis. It could be accepted for publication after minor changes.

Specific comments:

About Introduction:
1. Para 1 and Para 2: when AgP and CP appears in the manuscript for the first time, please use the full name.
2. Line 78 in Para 1, the phrase “in the early stage” may not proper here.
3. It is better to make a brief introduction on chronic periodontitis in Para 1.
4. It could be better if Para 3 and Para 4 combined into one Para.
5. It may be better if the location of reference 6 modified in the sentence. (Line 103-104)

About Materials and Methods:
6. In Para 2, it is mentioned that the sample collection is from 12, 2008 to 3, 2009. Please provide the time when PCR was carried out?
7. Sampling was carried at least 7 days after clinical measurement, please provide the exact interval between sampling and clinical examination, because too long time intern between sampling and clinical examination may lead to obvious clinical status change.
8. Please illustrate the specifications of the paper point, because different paper point may get different amount of samples. Illustration of the paper point may make it possible to compare this study to the other similar study more exactly.

About Results:
9. Para 5, please rephrase this para to make it more easy to understand.

About Discussion:
10. It is mentioned in L352 that “Tan and his coworkers showed [26]...”and in L372 “Tan[26] found...”, and the similar inconformity is found in several location. Please modify it.

About Reference:
11. The style of author`s name in reference [14], [15], [19] and [27] apparent inconformity with the others.

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