Reviewer’s report

Title: Orthodontic treatment of children/adolescents with special health care needs: An analysis of treatment length and clinical outcome

Version: 2 Date: 2 May 2014

Reviewer: David R Bearn

Reviewer’s report:

The samples used for this study do not allow for valid conclusions to be drawn. The SHCN group includes a wide range of differing CFAs. This is really a mixed CFA group not a SHCN group. The control group does not appear to have been matched in any way, and we have no idea what the pool it has been randomly drawn from represents. The treatment methods are wide and varied and in some instances appear to have had only very short treatment periods (as little as 4 months), or to have started as young as 3 years of age but we have no idea of any treatment protocols.

This means that it is not possible to make valid or meaningful comparisons or conclusions

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

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