Reviewer's report

Title: Adult Dental Anxiety and its Relationship to Periodontal Status: The Assessment of 1203 Chinese Dental Patients

Version: 2 Date: 16 October 2014

Reviewer: Tibor Károly Fábián

Reviewer's report:

No major compulsory revisions

Minor essential revisions as follows:

1. Use the term "dental fear" in all cases you used "dental anxiety". Dental anxiety is a historical but faulty expression /though it exists in the related literature and in the name of many related scales (i.e. DAS)/. Anxiety is a "fear without object". Dental "anxiety" is fear because it has an object, the dental treatment.

2. Specify more concretely in "methods" which nonparametric test was used.

3. Modify title to "possible" relationship to periodontal status and oral health behavior. "A preliminary study" or something like this. The methods how you measure periodontal status and oral health behavior is not suitable for making valid conclusion. But they are good enough to indicate possible correlations. Your title may express this, but not more.

4. Indicate gender distribution and age of the "periodontal disease" group

5. Shorten "discussion" strongly and discuss your result as a pilot in relation with periodontal status and oral behavior.

6. Rearrange your text in general. It is very difficult to understand your article especially for those who are not familiar with dental fear research.

Discretionual revision as follows

1. Your case number is rather high. You may also use multiway-ANOVA.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interest