Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence and association of self-reported anxiety, pain, and oral parafunctional habits in Japanese children and adolescents with temporomandibular disorders: A cross-sectional survey

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Magdalena Morawska
Executive Editor
BMC Oral Health

Dear Professor Morawska:

I, along with my coauthors, would like to ask you to consider the manuscript entitled “Prevalence and association of self-reported anxiety, pain, and oral parafunctional habits in Japanese children and adolescents with temporomandibular disorders: A cross-sectional survey” for publication in BMC Oral Health as a research article.

We aimed to identify risk factors associated with the development of temporomandibular disorders (TMD) in Japanese children and adolescents. Japanese children aged 11–15 years with (n = 182) or without TMD (n = 1233) completed self-questionnaires detailing TMD symptoms, headache, neck pain, and toothache, and completed scales assessing 15 daily activities. In addition, anxiety trait was measured using the State Trait Anxiety Inventory for Children-Trait (STAIC-T) scale. Significantly higher numbers of children with TMD had headache and neck pain, although neck pain alone remained significant on multivariate analysis. In addition, diurnal clenching was strongly associated with TMD symptoms, whereas anxiety was only weakly associated with TMD symptoms. We suggest that these findings be carefully considered by clinicians in determining management strategies for TMD in the young.

We believe that the findings of this study are relevant to the scope of your journal and will be of interest to its readership.

Please consider, as potential referees,

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This manuscript has not been published or presented elsewhere in part or in entirety, and is not under consideration by another journal. A preliminary report was presented at the Congress of the International Association of Paediatric Dentistry in Seoul, Korea, in 2013 (Int J Paediatr Dent 2013;23[Suppl. 1]:158[abstract]). All study participants provided informed consent, and the study design was approved by the appropriate ethics review boards. All the authors have approved the manuscript and agree with submission to your esteemed journal. There are no conflicts of interest to declare.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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