Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2
Date: 3 December 2014

Reviewer: Christian Hirsch

Reviewer's report:

General comments:

Aim of the paper was to analyse the association of self-reported TMD with other pain conditions, anxiety, and daily activities in adolescents using a population based sample of 1400 subjects. The topic of the paper is of interest because of the high prevalence of TMD symptoms even in adolescents. However, a clear hypothesis is lacking. The authors assessed a lot of symptoms (15) and calculated associations between oral and non-oral symptoms and conditions. Not surprisingly, some of the conditions (which are correlated among each other) are associated on a statistical significant level. The number of positive findings depends on the number of assessed variables. The majority of symptoms associated with TMD does not show a dose-response relationship.

The advantages of the study are the reliable measurements of TMD. Therefore, the paper should focus on the report of the TMD prevalence (symptoms and diagnoses) in Japanese adolescents using the RDC/TMD.

Specific comments:

Table 1 should show all the characteristics of the TMD and control group (not only age and anxiety). i.e. the content of tables 1 and 2 should be presented in one table.

The content of Table 3 is not very meaningful. The rare significant effects could be mentioned in the text.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests: