Reviewer's report

Title: Randomized Study to Disseminate Caries-Control Services in Dentist Offices

Version: 1 Date: 9 January 2006

Reviewer: Manuel Bravo

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1. Introduction. Would be possible to include a simple description of dentist utilisation by children from Washington State (or US children). Probably you could get those data from your National Health Interview surveys.

2. Introduction. Page 6. Second paragraph. I do not agree that "insufficient evidence exists for fluoride varnishes". There are some systematic reviews of fluoride varnishes (an easy search in PubMed will show them) that demonstrate a significant and high caries protection.

3. Methods, first paragraph. There is a quantitative description of sealant use, but qualitative ("rarely") of varnish use. Please, provide a quantitative figure (it could be enough an approximation or estimation) for varnish use.

4. Results. Please provide an analysis comparing those dentists accepting or not to participate in the study.

5. Methods or Results. You should specify the percent of parents accepting their children to participate in the study.


7. Methods. Analysis. I do not share the rationale to adjust three models in the analysis. This is not parsimonious. Please, consider the possibility of adjusting only one (and not three) model. This would make easier to understand your paper.

8. Tables. Please, include the standard deviation (and not only the mean) for the description of all quantitative variables.

9. Discussion. Please, provide any comment/comparison between participants / non-participants clinics.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests