Reviewer's report

Title: Statin using periodontitis patients have markedly fewer periodontal lesions - a cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 7 January 2008

Reviewer: Francesco D'Aiuto

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revision

1. The title refers to a cross-sectional study whereas the aim refers to a retrospective study design and this might confuse the reader please simplify using a consistent terminology?

2. The index PIBI used in this analysis is a proxy of local inflammation, but a validation analysis of this index would give more credit to its usage. Although in agreement with the authors' response about the validity of the PIBI index, the need of a properly design study on the association of PIBI with markers of inflammation is needed and should discussed in more details.

3. Due to the nature of the study, retrospective it was probably not possible to have a calibration exercise of the examiners, therefore the authors should clearly mention it in the discussion together with few words about the potential limitation on the interpretation of the results.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests