Reviewer's report

Title: In vitro teeth whitening effect of two nicotine medicated chewing gums compared to a whitening gum and saliva

Version: 3 Date: 31 May 2008

Reviewer: Anut Itthagarun

Reviewer's report:

The article is interesting. Methods used is relatively well designed. However, there are many places in the article that need to be rewritten/modified before being published.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Title: In vitro tooth whitening…instead of …teeth whitening. This should apply through the article, eg last sentence of “Background” and so on…
2. Background: second sentence (Lines 2-6) “The natural…environment (2)” is too long and confusing, should be rewritten.
3. Background: line 11… “taken of” should be , “taken off”…
4. Background: Line 14… “teeth staining” should be… “tooth staining”.
5. Background: Line 15 “Since…therapy” should be shortened to “Chewing gum has also been used to…therapy” and the authors should quote the reference for this statement.
6. Line 19: Please clarify the reason for quoting reference 5 here(for example, refer to method used?).
7. “Products” this entire section in “Methods” is not very clear and should be re-written.
9. Teeth Staining Apparatus should be changed to Tooth Staining Apparatus. And in order to make it clearer, Figure 1 should be labelled as explained in the text.
10. Teeth Staining Broth preparation should be changed to Tooth Staining Broth Preparation (Teeth to Tooth, p to P).
11. Please clarify the reason(s) for adding Micrococcus Luteus into the broth.
12. When refer to the equipments used, the company name and the country of manufacturer should be included.
13. Test Procedure: second sentence (Lines 3-5) should be rewritten.
14. Please include the amount of saliva used (second last line of page 6).
15. The explanation in this section is not very clear. It should be rewritten and/or
diagram/illustration should be used.

16. Results: Last sentence of the “stain removal” (Page 9, Lines 2-4) should be rewritten. In fact, I could not detect the changes from Figure 2 (This could be just my version of article?).

17. Page 10, Lines 11, 12 “sodium bicarbonate sodium”? 

18. Page 10, Lines 15-18, this sentence is too long and confusing. It should be rewritten.

19. Reference: Reference 3, title of the article should not start with “capital letters”; References 13 and 17, repeated page numbers should be deleted.

20. Delete extra “full stop (.)” at the end of Legends of Figure 3 and Table 1.

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

**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 interests