Reviewer’s report

Title: The Modified Dental Anxiety Scale: UK population norms in 2008

Version: 2 Date: 24 June 2009

Reviewer: Trilby Coolidge

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BMC Oral Health
Trilby Coolidge
Review of revision of Humphris et al., The Modified Dental Anxiety Scale: UK general public population norms in 2008 with further psychometrics and effects of age

The authors have submitted a revision which addresses the various suggestions well and therefore is a very nice improvement over the original version.

Minor essential revisions:

I have noticed one point in the revision which escaped my attention in the original version. At the top of p. 12, the authors state that “the majority of women however were at least ‘slightly anxious’ with all items in the questionnaire.” However, according to Table 2, the majority of women (63%) were not anxious about scaling and polishing. I trust that the authors can rectify this discrepancy. There is also a new sentence in the revision in which the authors start in the present tense (bottom of p. 15, “the patient”) and then move to the plural tense (“their feelings”), and I would ask the authors to correct this. Otherwise, I think this paper is ready to be published.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.