Reviewer's report

Title: Cone-beam computed tomographic evaluation of styloid process: A retrospective study of 208 patients with orofacial pain

Version: 1  Date: 11 January 2014

Reviewer: CAGRI DELILBASI

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MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS

1. It is not clear how those patients were included in the study? (i.e. did they refer to neurology department or faculty of dentistry?)

2. If these patients referred to faculty of dentistry, I wonder how detailed are the records kept considering the neurological complaints of the patients. As this study has a retrospective nature, the records should have been kept quite detailed.

3. How and why did the authors suspect of ES in these patients and required CBCT for styloid process evaluation? The neurological examination performed to the patients and other similar conditions mimicking ES should be discussed.

4. In materials and Methods section it is stated ' all kind of discomfort'. Please explain what kind of discomfort? .

5. It is stated on page 5 that the measurements were performed by the same radiologist but on page 10 regarding authors' contributions it seems that 2 authors performed the measurements. Please clarify.

6. I believe that the neurological part in whole study is not satisfactory. May be the neurologist author should be more involved in planning and discussion of the study.

7. The correlation between presence of styloid elongation and neurological complaints is not clear

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

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'