Reviewer's report

Title: Advances in assessing the volume of odontogenic cysts and tumors in the mandible: A retrospective clinical trial

Version: 1 Date: 7 February 2013

Reviewer: Cheng-Hsien Wu

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary Revisions
A well-written article that represented a method of 3D volume analysis of cystic or tumor-like lesions of the jaw. The authors provided a rapid and feasible algorithm to assess the lesion volume from CT or CBCT dataset. Here are some recommendations:

1. Is all the analysis calculated based on CT, CBCT or both? Is there any statistical difference between CT and CBCT in assessing the volume?
2. In the discussion, the authors stated that the Bland-Altman plot analysis demonstrated that the higher the values, the larger the difference between the two methods (P 7, L 13-15). It is better that the authors can set conclusive statement at the end of the paragraph.
3. The procedure stated in this article provides surgeons with information about the total volume of a cyst and the spatial relationship between the cyst and high-risk structures in its vicinity. Also it provides more detail volume information if surgeons plan to obturate the cavity with graft material. It may include in the article to expand the clinical application.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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