Reviewer’s report

Title: Nitrous oxide occupational exposure in conscious sedation procedures in pediatric dental ambulatoires: a pilot retrospective observational study in an Italian pediatric hospital

Version: 1 Date: 22 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Hiroshi Hanamoto

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review your manuscript.

Method

1. What are the primary and secondary outcome measurements? Please clarify in the method section.

Results

1. I recommend you to move the explanation of many literatures listed in the results section to the introduction or discussion section. In the results section, please emphasize the data obtained from your study.

2. There was missing data in Table 3. Please describe how to handle missing values.

3. Please confirm the correlation between urinary nitrous oxide concentration of dental assistant and environmental concentration of nitrous oxide. I confirmed the Pearson correlation of 0.918 using SPSS, although your Pearson correlation was 0.909.

4. The order of date in Table 2 and 3 was not same. Please correct the order of date.

5. You mentioned, "No correlation was found between patient's characteristics (age and gender) and environmental concentrations of nitrous oxide." Please include the statistical data in the manuscript.

Discussion

1. Please discuss about your statistical data.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.
I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal