Reviewer’s report

Title: Measurement Properties of Oral Health Assessments for Non-dental Healthcare Professionals In Older People– a systematic review-

Version: 0 Date: 18 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS: To view the full report from the academic peer reviewer, please see the attached file.

REVIEWER COMMENTS FROM REPORT: Overall, the study is a nice analysis. However, it lacks a few more explanations to make it more interesting for the reader. The authors have done well in a way that it is imperative that non dental professionals must also know the guidelines to evaluate the oral health conditions of the patients, as it can be done on a mass scale. On the contrary, the text can be made more interesting and more readily understandable even by non dental professionals.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

The study is nice, but there are few issues. The title of the study is not in resonance with the conclusion. The title of the study mentioned in the manuscript is "Different approaches for assessing oral health of older people by non-dental healthcare professionals -A systematic Review Evaluating Their Measurement Properties". So, the method and the conclusion must state the different methods used by non dental health care workers first. Later, it must evaluate them. Even this aspect must be highlighted in the Materials as well as in the results pertinently. Else, change the title to only evaluation.

Further, there are spelling mistakes and sentence formatting errors in the manuscript.

The manuscript must be written in a way that it can be easily understood by non dental health care workers too. Only then can the purpose of publication of this manuscript be fulfilled.

A few lines in the study are contradictory to the logic of the study, e.g., the authors have written that "Due to a higher public awareness on the impact of poor oral health in older people, there is increased attention in guidelines for the role of non-dental healthcare professionals in preventing oral problems in older people". If there is higher awareness in the patients, then they will like to go to dental professional first as compared to be examined by a non dental health care worker. So, please delete such confusing text.

The authors must also highlight the oral health assessment methods in brief in the introduction section.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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

No

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

Yes

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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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.
This reviewer has been recruited by a partner organization, Research Square. Reviewers with declared or apparent competing interests are not utilized for these reviews. This reviewer has agreed to publication of their comments online under a Creative Commons Attribution License attributed to Research Square and was paid a small honorarium for completing the review within a specified timeframe. Honoraria for reviews such as this are paid regardless of the reviewer recommendation.

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.