Author’s response to reviews

Title: The Association Between Minor Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis (RAS), Children's Poor Oral Condition, and Underlying Negative Habits and Attitudes Towards Oral Hygiene

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Author’s response to reviews:

Revised Submission for BMC Pediatrics

Dear Dr. Zalm,

Maria Zalm, MD
Editor in Chief
BMC Pediatrics
We would like to thank you and the Reviewers for your time and effort in carefully reviewing the manuscript titled “The Association Between Minor Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis (RAS), Children's Poor Oral Condition, and Underlying Negative Habits and Attitudes Towards Oral Hygiene”, for the constructive comments, and for the opportunity to revise the manuscript.

We revised the manuscript by thoroughly addressing the issues raised by the Editor. In the following, we report the Editor’s comment and we answer the query. The changes we made to the manuscript are highlighted in yellow.

Editor:

Following analysis of your manuscript we noticed significant overlap between your "background" text and the paper: "Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis" published by Preeti et al (2011) which can be found here: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3227248/ At BMC we follow the COPE guidelines for publication ethics. As such, we are not able to consider a manuscript with significant overlap in text. Therefore, I would kindly ask you to address this issue by rewriting the Background paragraph so that the text no longer overlaps with a published article. If you have any further questions regarding this issue, or your manuscript in general, please do not hesitate to contact me directly on maria.zalm@biomedcentral.com.

R: we checked the text of the Background and found the sentences that have an overlap with that paper. We changed the text as follows:

Minor Recurrent Aphthous Stomatitis (minor RAS) represents a disease which is very difficult to prevent. It is a painful oral mucosal condition characterized by recurrent, multiple, small, round ulcers, surrounded by erythematous haloes, with a necrotic base.1, 2

We remain available for further changes. We would like, therefore, to thank you, once again, for your precious time and effort, and do also hope that this improved version of the manuscript meets your expectations for publication in BMC Pediatrics.
Sincerely,

The authors