Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of the Smear Layer Removal and Erosive Capacity of EDTA, Boric Acid, Citric Acid and Desy Clean Solutions: An in vitro study

Version: 3 Date: 2 June 2015

Reviewer: Michael Hülsmann

Reviewer's report:

A well conducted study worth being published.
Some minor revision is necessary:
Abstract: the volume of irrigants should be included, also the application technique (syringe? Needle size? Depth of needle introduction? Time of irrigation?)
It should be mentioned that different scores were used for evaluation of s.l. and erosion.
If approval of an Ethics Committee has been given, please note that fact.
What about controls? Teeth with root canals prepared but not irrigated with the acids/chelators should have been used to confirm the presence of an adequate smear layer and un-eroded dentine before final irrigation.
How were the places selected from which photographs were taken?
Were the specimens blinded before SEM investigation?
It must be: intra-examiner agreement and inter-examiner agreement. Generally, English requires some attention by the editor
p. 7: Mistake in referencing has to be corrected
Time as an important factor in chalation should be discussed.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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'