**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Influence of Sense of Coherence on adolescents' self-perceived dental aesthetics; a cross sectional study

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 17 Dec 2016

**Reviewer:** Eli Schwarz

**Reviewer's report:**

The principal confusion emanating from this paper is the lack of conceptual consistency.

The stated aim is to investigate the association between sense of coherence and self-perception of dental aesthetics and whether sense of coherence influences self-perception of dental aesthetics.

Several conceptual layers are presented in addition to sense of coherence. The way the paper is written it becomes difficult to distinguish which direction the analysis goes. Is sense of coherence the result of other self perceptions or does sense of coherence affect the other self perceptions? In addition, sense of coherence is described as strong-weak, but then also higher-lower or positive-negative. None of this is well explained. Some level of a theoretic model that can describe the hypothetical relationship may be of assistance.

Of course it needs to be recognized that a cross sectional study cannot really explain causal relationships, maybe that needs to be emphasized.

**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.

Unable to assess

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

No
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
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Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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