Reviewer’s report

Title: Is histologic esophagitis associated with dental erosion: a cross-sectional observational study?

Version: 0 Date: 29 Jan 2017

Reviewer: Maria Grazia Cagetti

Reviewer’s report:

The paper entitled "Is histologic esophagitis associated with dental erosion: a cross-sectional observational study?" has the aim of clarifying whether the rate and pattern of dental erosions differ between children/adolescents with GER-associated esophagitis and normal histology, respectively.

It is an interesting and well-conducted research. The paper is easy to read, the methodology is appropriate and the results are coherent and consistent to the methods. The discussion needs to be implemented trying to explain the results; why erosions were found more in primary teeth than in permanent teeth? A possible explanation is that the age of the sample was not homogeneous, so permanent teeth may have been subjected to the effect of the acid for very different periods in different patients. Furthermore, the duration of the disease might have affected differently the teeth of each patient.

Minor essential revisions are required to improve the paper.

Background (line 31): please, change the sentence "Once dentin is exposed to acid, the loss of tooth structure accelerates. This problem may be particularly troublesome in children whose enamel and dentin are much thinner than adults". with "Once dentin is exposed to acid, the loss of tooth structure accelerates. This problem may be particularly troublesome in primary teeth whose enamel and dentin are much thinner than permanent teeth"

Methods: Subjects (line 64): a think that "a history of extensive previous dental restoration" is an unspecific inclusion criteria; please provide more detail about it.

Gastrointestinal Symtoms (line 70): Please provide a reference regarding the use of the Likert scale and explain in more detail how the scale was used.

Dental Examination (line 95): Was the intra-examiner reliability monitored?

(line 99) O'Brien reported the use of a partial recording system for measuring erosion in children in an epidemiological survey, where only the facial and lingual surfaces of the primary and
permanent maxillary incisor teeth were scored for erosion. In the present study, all teeth were
analysed. Please explain better this point or correct it.

Results (lines 126-127) "Results showed that the composite abdominal pain score….." it is
unclear what kind of score it is and how it was calculated.

Discussion: please see above

References: references are not in the required form.

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.

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.

I recommend additional statistical review

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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