Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 0 Date: 01 Feb 2017

Reviewer: Sergio Uribe

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OHEA-D-16-00500

This manuscript report the findings of a cross-sectional study aimed to determine whether the rate and pattern of dental erosions differ between children/adolescents with GER-associated esophagitis and normal histology, respectively.

This is a relevant issue in dentistry, and this manuscript add information that could be useful in clinical settings. This report can be enhanced if the following major and minor changes are addressed, in order to allow the assessment of the validity and replicability of the results.

METHODS

1. Since this research use a convenience sample, more information about the type of patients that the Children's Mercy Kansas Hospital treat is required. Give enough information to allow the reader to compare his/her own patients to the sample described in this manuscript.

2. Define clearly which will be the predictor and outcome variable.

   Define clearly the unit of study and analysis. Seems to be tooth lesion clustered by patient?

3. Is not clear if this is a risk oriented study (i.e. the presence of erosion increase the risk or serve as indicator of esophagitis prevalence ratio = xx(95%IC)) or diagnostic (the presence of erosion can be useful as diagnostic marker of esophagitis (sensitivity = xx%, specificity = xx%)). This definition would serve to elaborate appropriate tables.


   Since this study uses ordinal variables to characterise both erosion and esophagitis, a graph showing the results for the 25 patients would be useful.

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.

Yes

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

Unable to assess

**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 am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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