Reviewer’s report

Title: Oral cancer screening practices of Oral Health Professionals in Australia

Version: 0 Date: 31 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Michaela Goodwin

Reviewer’s report:

Please find attached queries/suggestions below regarding the paper (please also find an uploaded PDF of manuscript with annotations for the smaller changes)

Page 1 - Line 22 - do you mean Logistic regression rather than linear regression

Background - This section has a number of sentences/words that need to be rewritten (letters missed off words or sentences which don't fully flow/make sense)- in the majority of cases I have annotated these changes straight onto the PDF

In addition
Page 2 - line 37 this sentence 'rise particularly in younger adults of 40s and 50s who have never smoked' could be rewritten. Also it is unusual to refer to those in their 50s as younger adults so would suggest another phrase

Page 3 line 14 - remove the word 'and' - replace 'with'

Page 11 - line 5 - why is the split here - very rarely vs. other - why not combine rarely and less than 50% - is it to mimic other studies which have shown around 85% of dentists perform oral screening (which would be a similar number here)

Low response rate - what was the minimum sample needed - the authors describe what was expected but not the minimum to have confidence in results.

Were any actions taken to increase response rate - contact dentists again, follow up with non-responders to see why etc.?

Is there any data to compare this group of responders to the wider dental sample i.e. do the distribution of responders represent the population in age, qualification, profession etc. There would still be non-response bias but I was wondering if the group is biased in any of the metrics that could easily be measured

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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