Reviewer’s report

Title: General and Erosive Tooth Wear of 16-year-old Adolescents in Kuantan, Malaysia: Prevalence and Association with Dental Caries

Version: 0 Date: 30 Nov 2016

Reviewer: Chun-Hung Chu

Reviewer’s report:

In general, please check the grammar (eg. Line 35-36 in abstract, Line 2-4, 23-25 in page 1 of M&M, ), and send out for prove reading if necessary. Please put the whole word instead of abbreviation when appeared in the first time, as well as in tables.

Title:
1. Please either justify whether Kuantan can represent the whole Malaysia. Or the author should put the name of the city in the title.

Abstract:
1. In aim, please specify where the target population is from.
2. Line 25-27, what is "the most frequently affected surface was the incisal or occlusal surface" for?
3. Please add the data of relationship between erosive tooth wear and dental caries in the result.
4. The conclusion should address the aim.

Introduction:
1. Some references are too old.

M&M:
1. Please check whether this study follow the STROBE statement.
2. This is an epidemiology study. But the author didn't conduct random sampling.
3. How much is the expected prevalence for sample size calculation?

4. What does "a further design effect of two was set to increase the variance of estimate in cluster sampling" mean?

5. Why students with poor oral hygiene were excluded from the study?

6. The number of students participating in the second calibration exercise was not consistent.

7. The author said duplicate examination was performed on ever "fifth" students. But the total number of duplicated cases are 37 (only 7% of the sample size). The total number of participants was 598. There must some error in reporting. And the duplicated cases should be at least 10% of the total sample size.

8. As the TWI score needs to record the condition of all surfaces, it is not reasonable that the author excluded the lower lingual surfaces. And the author did not follow the real TWI. Please justify.

9. Please specify how the author recoded the TWI score to tooth level.

10. Socio-demographic factors are not the most important risk factors for causing erosive tooth wear. Diary habits, gastric disturbances, drug influence, salivary gland dysfunction, professional exposure to acidic environment, and oral hygiene habits should be considered.

11. Please justify why the author used D3MFT instead of DMFT.

Results:

1. There are too many diagram with little value. Bar-chart is not appropriate to show groups with large variation (Figure 1 and 2).

2. Tables with insignificant result can be omitted.

3. The tooth position is important for reporting tooth wear, but the author fail to report this part.

Discussion:

1. Please discuss about the methodology and limitation of this study.

Reference:
1. Please remove the duplicated references.

2. Please check the format to make it consistent.

**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.

Unable to assess

**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

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal