Reviewer’s report

Title: Dental Care Use in Ontario: the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)

Version: 1 Date: 07 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Sergio Uribe

Reviewer's report:

* PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED INFORMATION/DESCRIPTION (numbered) IN THE TEXT OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Still is not clear the outcome of this research. From the abstract:

"Dental care use was defined by two distinct outcomes: not visiting a dentist within the past year and visiting a dentist only for emergencies."

Later, text describe poor dental care use as irregular OR only in emergency.

Hence is not clear if the conclusion is good or bad:

"Socioeconomic status, self-reported oral health, and general health behaviors were associated with dental care use. These findings highlight the need for focusing efforts toward improving dental care use among Ontarians."

BECAUSE: what is preferable: a person who did not attend the dentist of a person who attend because had a dental emergency?

1. Explain clearly *in the manuscript* this issue. Table 1 suggest that the "good" outcome is *not* to use dental care. This is in contradiction with page 1 line 17: "to have an oral examination on a regular basis remains a key practice..."

2. Also add in the conclusion of the abstract if "were associated with dental care use" meaning good or poor dental care.

3. Speak other language than English or French seems strongly associated with dental visits≥ 1. Explain this result.

4. Explain what means "Not Applicable" from Teeth brushing frequency from Table 1.

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:

Acceptable

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