Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association of caries experience and dental plaque with sociodemographic characteristics in elementary school-aged children: a cross-sectional study

Authors:

Saeed Bashirian (Bashirian@umsha.ac.ir)

Samaneh Shirahmadi (shirahmadi.S@umsha.ac.ir; shirahmadi_s@yahoo.com)

Shabnam Seyedzadeh-Sabounchi (shsab1@gmail.com)

Ali Reza Soltanian (Soltanian@umsha.ac.ir)

Akram Karimi-shahanjarini (karimi.a@umsha.ac.ir)

Farshid Vahdatinia (Fa.vahdatinia@gmail.com)

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Akram Karimi-shahanjarini, (karimi.a@umsha.ac.ir)

Farshid Vahdatinia (Fa.vahdatinia@gmail.com)
We thank all the Reviewers for their valuable feedback and taking the time to provide useful comments to improve our manuscript entitled “Association of caries experience and dental plaque with sociodemographic characteristics in elementary school-aged children: a cross-sectional study”.

Based on the constructive comments the following changes have been made:

Editor Comments:

1. Please remove the response to reviewers from the file inventory, as it is no longer needed at this stage of the editorial process.

Response: We have removed the response to reviewers from the file inventory.

2. Please rename the "Materials and methods" section to "Methods" in order for the manuscript format to meet the journal guidelines.

Response: We have deleted "Materials and methods" and the "Methods" now replaces it. Page 4 line 20.

3. Please note that based on the current authors’ contributions section, several listed authors do not automatically qualify for authorship. Acquisition of funding, collection of data, writing of the manuscript or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not usually justify authorship. We ask that you ensure that the listed author contributions are in line with the ICMJE guidelines (below), and that all listed authors have performed all four points specified below.
Response: We have revised authors’ contributions section. The listed author contributions are in line with the ICMJE guidelines, and that all listed authors have performed all four points specified. Page 18 lines 15-21.

4. Figure files should contain only the image/graphic, as well as any associated keys/annotations. If titles/legends are present within the figure files, please remove them. Please provide figure titles/legends under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References. If Figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them.

Response: We have deleted title that was present within the figure files and provide figure title under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References. Page 27 lines 19-22.

5. Please refer to table 1 in the main text of the manuscript.

Response: We have referred to table 1 in the main text of the manuscript. Page 8 lines 8, 9 and 12.

6. Please upload a clean version of the manuscript without tracked changes or highlighting and then remove any highlighted versions from the inventory, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

Response: We have uploaded a clean version of the manuscript without tracked changes or highlighting and removed any highlighted versions from the inventory.