Reviewer's report

Title: ATTITUDES TOWARDS TOOTH FILLINGS IN TANZANIAN ADULTS AND ITS ASSOCIATION WITH PREVIOUS FILLING EXPERIENCE

Version: 0 Date: 20 Nov 2016

Reviewer: Madhan Balasubramanian

Reviewer's report:

The authors of this manuscript aimed to assess the patient attitudes towards tooth fillings, and examine the influence of patient background and previous tooth fillings on such attitudes. The setting for the study is based in a low and middle-income country in Africa, and considerable effort has been put into the 'native' development of an eight-item questionnaire, and deployment of the questionnaire among a client base of some 1600 people (400 participants from each of 4 regional hospitals in Tanzania). The findings of the study are likely to support policy decisions that call for improved preventive services in the region. However, the style of writing and presentation could be improved. For example, the authors start with Andersons model (Page4; Ln5), without no rational explanation on its inclusion. The methods could be improved by writing in traditional sections such as sampling, data collection, data items, data analysis, ethics). The results section and tables are not presented in the conventional sense. The discussion is poorly written. Nevertheless, I argue that the paper will suit the journal, mainly based on its potential contribution towards oral health policy in the African region.

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

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