**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Dental caries prevention strategies among children and adolescents with immigrant- or low socioeconomic backgrounds- do they work? A systematic review

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 28 Aug 2017

**Reviewer:** Gerardo Maupomé

**Reviewer's report:**

The manuscript "Dental caries prevention strategies among children and adolescents 1 with immigrant- or 2 low socioeconomic backgrounds- do they work? A systematic review" is a clear and comprehensive review of 5 large datasets of the published literature in recent years. The authors made a strong case for not including some fluoride technologies with an established effectiveness, and instead focused their attention on other aspects of preventive interventions that have not been sufficiently scrutinized for their impact.

**Strengths:**

Important addition to literature, relevant to one crucial segment of the at-risk population.

The methods used and described follow closely current recommendations for systematic reviews.

Clear and comprehensive definitions of target population, exhausting the various terms that could apply.

Resorting to several databases and multiple languages.

**Weaknesses:**

Their omission of the gray literature is unexplained. Please add a sentence to indicate the rationale for doing so.

A few aspects of language could be improved; of note are the incorrect use of 'which' for 'that' in various sentences. 'focussed' has one s. The Acknowledgment section has convoluted syntax.
The statement of the systematic review at the end of the Introduction was inadvertently truncated. It is found in other sections, but must be clearly stated here.

Although it is a matter of semantics, the statement "Caries is a totally preventable disease" looks a bit adventurous to this reviewer. Some qualification is in order, as in 'largely preventable'...

**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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Needs some language corrections before being published
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