Reviewer’s report

Title: Reliability and validity of measuring scale for postoperative complications in third molar surgery

Version: 0 Date: 01 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Alexandra Stähli

Reviewer’s report:

Material and methods:

The patient groups are not precisely characterized. Could the authors include a table with patient characteristics. Could the authors elaborate more about the different items of the scale according to which the patients were selected and distributed.

For the reader it would be helpful to elaborate more about the surgical technique. How was the wound closure performed? Did the surgeons use a drain? Was a primary closure performed? What suture material was used?

What postoperative procedure did the patients follow? Were the patients instructed to rinse with chlorhexidine solution? Furthermore, it would be interesting to know if the patients received postoperative antibiotics. Could the authors provide further detail about the postoperative procedure.

Next, as a reader it is not obvious how the complications were rated. Could the authors give further information (maybe with pictures) how a complication was defined and according to which parameters the patients were attributed to different scales? Furthermore, the authors should be consistent with the definitions: without or mild complications appear in the manuscript as one term.

Results:

Table 1 needs improvement. Please show all scores

Discussion and Conclusion:

Could the authors elaborate more about the ability of the scaling system to predict complications or was this not an issue?

Next one wonders how the scaling system was in accordance with the patient’s perspective? Was there an accordance found?
It should be discussed more in detail whether this small number of patients showing complications is really statistically solid to draw any conclusion about the validating system. This issue remains to be discussed.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**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.

No

**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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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