Author’s response to reviews

Title: Efficiency of chewable toothbrush in reduction of dental plaque in students

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Response to reviewer’s comments

Dear Editor and Reviewers,

We thank you for your excellent review of the study "Efficiency of chewable toothbrush and reduction of dental plaque in students". We believe that all the suggestions and changes listed in your reviews are fully justified and will contribute to the quality of the study itself and its publishing in "BMC Oral Health" journal.

Response to comments of Jeffery L. Milleman (Reviewer 1)

1. Comment: - Abstract: The Conclusions are fine with regard to plaque removal but you cannot include caries and periodontal diseases.

Response: Corrected.
Response to comments of Tobias K. Boehm (Reviewer 3)

1. Comment: explain in more detail the oral hygiene instructions given to the patients as this is critical for the function of the brushes.
Response: In the Material and Methods section, a text about the toothbrushing technique using a conventional toothbrush was added. Respondents of this group brushed their teeth for 2 minutes, in line with ADA (American Dental Association) recommendations.

2. Comment: slightly revise the statistics M&M section to describe in more detail what groups where compared using the ANOVA method - I could not follow how the F-values were calculated in the statement "...there was a statistically significant change in the amount of plaque in time.... There is a statistically significant interaction between groups and changes in the amount of plaque in the observed period..."

Response: We fully agree with your suggestion. The value (F) is test stats and does not contribute to comprehensibility, however we turned it off and left only the (p) value.

3. Comment: expand on chewable brushing was done: How long did subjects chew? Was there any specialized instruction on using the chewable brush?

Response: In the material and methods section, the detailed instruction on how to use the chewable tooth brush was added in relation to the treatment group.