Reviewer’s report

Title: The effect of missing teeth on dementia in older people: A nationwide population-based cohort study in South Korea

Version: 0 Date: 26 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Arheiam Arheiam

Reviewer’s report:

This is a very interesting paper on the association between the number of teeth extracted and the incidence of dementia in a large cohort of Koreans.

There are some points which need clarification:

1. line 136- why the extraction groups were classified in this way? and why the authors did not assess the incidence of dementia by extraction groups

2. line 270- (In this study, we found that tooth loss significantly increased the risk for dementia.) This is a big statement suggesting causative association. instead, you should write: The study shows that the number of extracted teeth is associated with higher risk of dementia

3. line 328- Please remove the following statement as it is suggesting a cause-effect association which lacks plausibility. The result of our nationwide population-based study in Korea suggests that it is important to delay tooth loss and preserve residual teeth to prevent dementia.

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.

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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