Reviewer’s report

Title: Oral health status among visually impaired schoolchildren in northeast China

Version: 0 Date: 04 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Alaa Hussein

Reviewer’s report:

Factors affecting oral health status among visually impaired schoolchildren in northeast China

Thank you for the efforts to complete this work. However, the manuscript has to be revised taking into consideration the comments below, before it can be considered for publication in this journal.

My comments are as below:

Title

I would suggest changing it to Oral health status among visually impaired schoolchildren in northeast China

Abstract

- Background: you cannot say here we assessed…

The word WE cannot be mentioned in the abstract

It would be better to say the aim of this study was to assess…

- Methods: You mentioned other oral health related problem. However, I could not find it in the results section. Please clarify it.

- Results: the last sentence about logistic regression needs to be revised

- Keywords: add China, mention factors only instead of influencing factors

Introduction

- It is too long. Suggest revising it to make more precise

- Some statements without references
- Please write the full words of OHL-S.
- This section should be ended with problem statement then the aims of the study.
- Materials and methods
- No information about caries-free children. Were there some children with no caries?
- No information about the medical status of the children. Were there all healthy with no systemic disease?
- Add the reference that used for assessing the visual impairment.
- It would be better to mention the indices used in assessing the oral health status such DMFT to assess the caries experience.
- I would to suggest changing Quality control to The calibration.

Results
- The results section is the most important part of any study.
- I would suggest moving "the overall mean number of caries..." from general characteristics to be under caries sub heading.
- No SD value for the mean age.
- Page 9 line 170, the authors stated 96% of primary teeth were missing and 84% of permanent teeth were missing too. Actually they were not missing based on the table 2. Please check them.
- The authors used the term rate, do you mean prevalence?

Discussion
- It needs to be revised.
- The term oral disorder is different from oral disease. So please change it
- The authors stated the previous studies have shown that the prevalence of malocclusion….. with one reference only indicated one study not studies.

List of abbreviations
- Remove it

Acknowledgement
- The authors can thank the parent and their children for their participation in this study.

References
- Please follow the journal's guidelines

Tables
- Need to be revised and improved.
- Too many tables
- Write the full words of your variable
- Sometimes the authors wrote parameter and sometime wrote group. I would suggest writing variables
- Table 2 is about caries experience (demft/DMFT). Please revise the its title. Move the percentage to be next to the number then mean
- Table 3 is really confusing. Try to rearrange the sequence of the columns. For example number of children with FPM then number of children with CFPM and lastly number of children with PFS.
- Table 5, the authors presented data for "others". No information about others in the results. Suggest writing the details of others
- Table 6, do the authors mean primary school (junior school).

Overall
- Needs proof reading before being considered for publication.
- Regarding the format, justify the text.

Best of luck…
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.

No

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?
If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interest.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal