Author’s response to reviews

Title: Do fixed orthodontic appliance cause halitosis? - A systematic review

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor Liam Messin,

Regarding the manuscript “Does fixed orthodontic appliance cause halitosis? A Systematic review” (OHEA-D-18-00237).

We are grateful for the suggestions and comments as they will improve the paper and facilitate the communication with our colleagues. The manuscript has now been revised according to nearly all the suggestions for modifications made by the reviewers, see comments below.

Sincerely,

Dr. Salem Abdulraheem and co-authors

Technical errors:

1. Please change the name of the materials and Methods section to "Methods" : This was changed as requested.
2. In the Methods section, we note that you have included the following statement:

"as registered in the
National Institute of Health Research database with an appropriate protocol number

(http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO Protocol: xxxxxxx": This was added in the text. Protocol CRD42017074854

3. Please have the text edited by a professional language editing service or a native English speaking colleague. There are many issues with grammar, wording, spelling, and/or punctuation that need to be addressed before acceptance for publication. The manuscript was sent for professional language editor.

4. The Availability of data and materials section refers to the raw data used in your study and presenting tables and figures is not sufficient to state that all data is contained within the manuscript and additional files. Please only use this statement if you have indeed provided all raw data on which your study is based. We strongly encourage all authors to share their raw data, either by providing it in a supplementary file or depositing it in a public repository and providing the details on how to access it in this section. If you do not wish to share your data, please clearly state this in this section along with a justification. Data availability statements can take one of the following forms (or a combination of more than one if required for multiple datasets):

This sentence was added:

• The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

5. Please include the full name of the funding body in the Funding section of your manuscript. This was added in the text “Orthodontic department, Malmo university, Sweden”

6. In the section 'Funding', please also describe the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

This paragraph was added: This survey was funded by the Orthodontic Department, Malmo University, Sweden without any contribution in the design of the study, collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript
7. The individual contributions of ALL authors to the manuscript should be specified in the Authors’ Contributions section. Guidance and criteria for authorship can be found here.

We kept the preexisting sentence as it is since all authors did the search, data extraction, analysis and writing the paper.

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Figures were added to the new submission.

9. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

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