Reviewer’s report

Title: Dental Care Use by Immigrant Canadians in Ontario: a cross sectional analysis of the 2014 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)

Version: 0 Date: 02 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Patrick Brzoska

Reviewer's report:

Review of the manuscript "Dental Care Use by Immigrant Canadians in Ontario: a cross sectional analysis of the 2014 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS)" submitted to BMC Oral Health.

In their study, the authors examine factors associated with dental care use among migrants in Ontario. Given that migrants may encounter various barriers in the health care system, the manuscript can be regarded relevant in its field as it identifies individuals at high risk of poor dental care. However, some revisions and clarifications need to be made before publication can be considered. In the following, I would like to comment on particular aspects of the authors' manuscript.

Introduction:

The authors should provide more information on the countries/regions that migrants originate from.

A sentence or two should be added on how the expected results of the study may contribute to improving the oral health of migrants in Canada.

Methods:

The authors should explain why the Région du Nunavik and Région des Terres-Cries-de-la-Baie-James were excluded from the survey.

The authors could describe how each of the covariates was measured or - for nominal/ordinal variables -- at least how they were categorized.

The authors conducted a weighted analysis. However, general population surveys which include migrants tend to be not representative for this population group making weighted analyses problematic. The authors should explain why they consider the sampling weights valid in this case or describe possible limitations in the discussion.

As migrants are very heterogeneous, the authors should explain why they decided against distinguishing between different groups of migrants.
Results:

Tab. 2: Information on the sample size should be provided. In case the weighting has been considered in the logistic regression, this information should be added to the table.

Discussion:

"In fact, a study conducted in Nova Scotia found that 45 recent adult…" Should it be "45%"? Else, this sentence is not very informative.

The authors could elaborate on how their findings on factors associated with dental care use among migrants - if at all - differ from findings of studies conducted among non-migrants.

Conclusion

The conclusion seems to be incomplete (see page 12).

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 am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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 interests

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