Reviewer’s report

Title: Composition and Diversity of the Subgingival Microbiome and its Relationship with Age in Postmenopausal Women: an Epidemiologic Investigation

Version: 0 Date: 31 May 2019

Reviewer: Aliye Akcali

Reviewer's report:

The present cross-sectional study was conducted in order to investigate the relationship between oral microbiological profile and age factor in a cohort of postmenopausal women. This is a well written study that will contribute to oral health and epidemiological research.

1. I would recommend the authors conforming the report to a reporting guideline for observational studies.

2. Methods: It is not clear which hormone replacement therapy (Estrogen alone or combined with a Progestin, also short-term vs long-term use) was used? In addition to this therapy may other confounders such as diabetes and smoking have any possible influence on microbial findings?

3. Methods: Please provide information how was the age group classified (selection of the age range).

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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.
Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Acceptable

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

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