Reviewer’s report

Title: Antibiotic prophylaxis habits in oral implant surgery among dentists in Italy: a crosssectional survey

Version: 0 Date: 08 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Bengt Götrick

Reviewer's report:

This study investigates the use of antibiotic prophylaxis among general dentists in conjunction with dental implant placements. The study is well carried out and the manuscript is generally well-written and organized but the result comes as no surprise. However, as long as there is an overprescribing and misuse of antibiotics in conjunction with oral implant surgery, studies like this should be published.

A few comments:

The aim was to assess antibiotic prescribing habits of dentists in conjunction with routine oral implant surgery in healthy patients.

How is "routine oral implant surgery" defined? How was it defined in the questionnaire? According to the result, some dentists gave antibiotics only in conjunction with bone grafting, preoperative implant site-infection, immediate implant placement and multiple implant insertion. Shouldn't these dentists belong to the group "No never"?

How is "healthy patients" defined? How was it defined in the questionnaire? According to the result, some dentists gave antibiotics only to patients with cardiopathy or to medically compromised patients. Shouldn't these dentists belong to the group "No never"?

Line 79: "…different countries [8-12]."
Shouldn't it be [13-18]?

Line 179: "…2 g of oral Amoxicillin/Clavulanic acid 1 hour prior to surgery (n=60, 41,9%)." Please check these data, they do not seem to match the data in Table 3.

Line 183: "More than the half (55,4%) of the dentists who advise patients to start the antibiotics treatment post-operatively, prescribe oral 875/125 mg Amoxicillin/Clavulanic acid twice a day for a period varying from five to six days"

Please check these data, they do not seem to match the data in Table 4.
According to the manuscript, dental practitioners in Italy routinely perform oral implant surgery. There are more than 61,000 dentists in Italy. The questionnaire was sent to 400 dentist and the response rate was quite low (40%). No non-response analysis was done. According to the authors the study sample was considered representative of the target population. Please explain how you came to this conclusion.

Line:237: "Other surveys have found that in the UK approximately 72% of a total of 109 dentists prescribed antibiotics for all oral implant surgeries14 and 74% in Sweden (n=133).[15]"
Please rewrite the sentence.

Conclusions: The last four sentences of the conclusion should be deleted.

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.

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

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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