Reviewer’s report

Title: Oral Health Related Quality of Life of Patients with Class III Skeletal Malocclusion Before and After Orthognathic Surgery

Version: 2 Date: 23 Oct 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses one or several testable research questions? (Brief or other article types: is there a clear objective?)
Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?
Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with sufficient technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?
Yes - experiments and analyses were performed appropriately

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?
Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?
Yes - the author's interpretation is reasonable

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Has the author addressed your concerns sufficiently for you to now recommend the work as a technically sound contribution? If not, can further revisions be made to make the work technically sound?
Yes - current version is technically sound

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: Yes.
The manuscript has substantially improved.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:
I would like to thank the authors for their constructive response to my comments.

I have only one comment. This is more a suggestion to make the manuscript more relevant than a critique.

The Minimal Important Difference (MID) is a concept. This difference is assumed to be relatively
constant for a questionnaire. Therefore, published work about an MID by other authors can be used to judge the achieved results in this study as to whether OHIP change scores exceed the MID or not. If the OHIP difference (follow-up minus baseline) is larger than the MID, it is assumed that the intervention is clinically meaningful. Because the OHIP change was larger than the 2 MIDs that I mentioned before in the previous suggestions, the authors could call their findings clinically relevant even if they have not determined the MID in their study.

A study that can demonstrate an intervention's effect as clinically relevant and statistically significant is much more valuable than a study that found an intervention's effect to be only statistically significant. Even a trivial effect can be statistically significant if the sample size is large enough. However, patients and clinicians alike want to have a meaningful OHRQoL change. It seems the studied intervention provides these meaningful effects and the reader needs to be informed accordingly.

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.

Yes

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?

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

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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.

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