Reviewer’s report

Title: ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DEVELOPMENTAL DENTAL ANOMALIES, EARLY CHILDHOOD CARIES AND ORAL HYGIENE STATUS OF 3-5-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN IN ILE-IFE, NIGERIA

Version: 0 Date: 27 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Azza El-Housseiny

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript entitled "Association between Developmental Dental Anomalies, early childhood caries and oral Hygiene status of 3-5-year-old children in Ile-Ife, Nigeria" is aimed to find a relationship between dental anomalies and some oral health parameters. It is well written, however, there are some short comings that need to be addressed by the authors as follows.

In general there are few language errors that needs the attention of the authors.

The authors did not write the type of the study design, either in title, abstract or methods. It would be better if the authors followed the STROBE guidelines for reporting their study.

Aim: is not clear in the text.

Methods:
- Sample size calculation is not clear.
- No inclusion or exclusion criteria
- Page 5 lines 4-10; The simplified oral hygiene index assess facial surfaces of the three upper teeth and the lower incisor. While for the two lower molars the lingual surfaces only are examined, not as written by the authors. More details are needed on how they calculated the scores.
- Did they calculate debris only or debris and calculus. In addition what is the reference they used to classify oral hygiene. According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry for debris assessing scores ranges from 0-3, good =0.3-0.6, fair = 0.7-1.8 and poor = 1.9-3.0
- Authors did not explain why they selected Poisson regression in data analysis which may not be familiar to many readers.

Results:
- In page 4 line 13 the minimum sample size is 1440, while data analysis was only for 918. On what bases they did sample size and then did not fulfill it. Did the authors calculate the power for the analyzed number to be satisfied with the collected number.
- The authors are confusing the readers in page 5 line 57 to page 6 line 12. They wrote that ECC was only present in children with hypoplasia and hypomineralized ... While table 2 shows that ECC is absent in 3.7 % and 1.8% respectively of children with these conditions.
- Table 3: it would be better if the authors wrote the abbreviation in full under the table.

Conclusion: should be based on the results not on previous studies
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.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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