Reviewer’s report

Title: Assessment of risk factors for early childhood caries at different ages in Shandong, China and reflections on oral health education: a cross-sectional study

Version: 0 Date: 05 Jan 2020

Reviewer: Hoda Bahramian

Reviewer's report:

This paper has a potential to be accepted, but needs major revision i.e. some important points have to be clarified and errors have to be corrected.

1-Please do not use long sentences, instead use simple and short ones. For example, in method and conclusion parts of abstract section, Lines 29-31 and Lines 41-45.

2- Totally there are many grammatical errors and misspelling throughout the manuscripts and needs professional language checking.

3-What do you mean by cognition in line 39, please mention what cognition.

4-For line 70 and 71 please provide reference.

5-In Line 73 the word "hospital" should be replaced with another general word like dental clinics

6- Line 76 do you mean flossing by the word gloss !!!!

7-What do you mean by the word "forth" in line 74.

8-What is the sample size formula used in this study?-

9-Beginning the sentences with numbers is incorrect in scientific writing. Please use Number in letters instead. For example, line 106 , 112 , 153 , 162, ..... 

10-The sentence in Line 123, 124 should be revised.

11-Line 134-138, It should be explained in more details which indices were examined and then reported in result part.

12-Line 146, pleases explain which variables.

13-Line 151, it has not been mentioned in the method part about 3 cities. What do you mean by 3 cities?

14-Line 155 and totally in text, Standard deviations should be reported with means.
15-In lines 165 to 168, the results that are provided are not consistent with table S1.

16-Line 167 fit is not correct. It must be pit.

17-Line 171, 172 the sentence "Analysis from perspective of ...." Is incomplete. It should be join to next sentence.

18-Line 180 - 182 please revise the sentence according to table and make it clearer.

19-Line 213,  (OR: 0.28, 95% CI: 0.12-0.69) is correct for completely artificial fed within six month which the p-value is significant.

20-Line 241 assess is correct instead of access.

21-Line 376 grant number instead of grand number.

22-Line 313 to 320 is not clear and should be revised to support the data explained first time in result section. The text is difficult to understand for the readers.

23-All the references should be revised according to the journal style.

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.

I recommend additional statistical review
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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