Reviewer's report

Title: LINGUISTIC-CULTURAL VALIDATION OF THE ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT TOOL (OHAT) FOR THE ITALIAN CONTEXT

Version: 1 Date: 27 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Fredrick Wright

Reviewer's report:

An interesting and important paper for the international nursing community. The paper provides a valid argument and a good evidence-base for the use of an oral health assessment tool - in specific languages which offer international comparisons across communities. The methods, result and discussion are appropriate, clear and not excessively long. There are some minor editorial issues and spelling errata which should be corrected: For example, Page 3 line 63 - use two decimal point consistently not three; page 5 line 97 - the word "dentist" could be changes to "dental practitioner" so that other qualified dental personnel (such as dental hygienists) are included; page 6 line 127 Kayser-Johnes shuld be Kayser-Jones; page 12 line 26 Chalmer should be Chalmers; and page 13 line 282 OHHT should be OHAT.

The only other comment I would make is that reference could also be made to the problem of poor oral hygiene being associated with aspiration pneumonia and the importance to good nursing practice for those with physical and/or cognitive disorders to have assistance with daily tooth brushing - a consequence of appropriate OH Assessment (see Barnes CM 2014. Dental hygiene intervention to prevent nosocomial pneumonias. J Evid Base Dent Pract 145;103-114.)

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.

Yes
I am able to assess the statistics

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

Acceptable

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