Reviewer’s report

Title: The influence of frequently consumed beverages and snacks on dental erosion among preschool children in Saudi Arabia

Version: 0 Date: 16 May 2017

Reviewer: Dirk Aerenhouts

Reviewer's report:

The current study investigates the prevalence of dental erosion in relation to dietary intake in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Dietary intake is a broad term for the actual foods investigated, i.e. snacks and different drinks. Therefore, the title is somewhat misleading. Authors might want to reconsider. Furthermore, the statistical terminology used in this paper should be revised (relationships, associations, correlations) in function of the statistical test used.

In chronological order I present my remarks and suggestions for improvement.

Abstract:

No need to use reference here.

typo: drink insted of dink

It is not Obvious to me want authors mean with the sentence: 'Among daily consumers, 84% exhibited a significant relationship to the prevalance of erosion.' Could it be: '...., 84% exhibited detal erosion'?

Introduction:

p2 line 12: twice 'that'

Methods:

p4 line 12: is this correctly referred to (see guidelines)?

In which year and period were these measurements performed? Please add this information.
for data analysis: what did you do if participants reported to use only occasionally a straw. How were they classified?

Results:

p6 line 23: There was a comparable prevalence of dental erosion ... (instead of '... a slight but insignificant in the ...')

p6 line 32: a p value of '0' is not possible, this should be p<0.001).

p6 line 53: how did you find a relationship? Unclear.

sentence from p6-7: If not significant, don't use the word association (and certainly not relationship).

p 7 line 4: were correlations calculated??

p 7 line 38-40: '...seemed to increase ...' Please be clear in what you state in the results section.

Discussion:

p8 line 21: remove 'population'

p9 line 24-26: sentence is grammatically not correct.

p9 line 59. The 2004 study by ... (remove 'In')

Authors should acknowledge in the discussion that only specific foods were investigated, and not the entire dietary intake. It is not novel to say that fruit juices and soft drinks are detrimental for tooth health. It could have been interesting to look at other typical Arabian foods as well ...

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An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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