Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical complications during treatment with a modified Herbst appliance in combination with a lingual appliance

Version: 2 Date: 10 August 2015

Reviewer: Thomas Stamm

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Review
Clinical complications during treatment with a modified Herbst appliance in combination with a lingual appliance

General comments
The authors aimed to perform a comparison of complications using the Herbst appliance. Complications during treatment with a customized lingual appliance combined with Herbst telescopes were compared to complications concerning the traditional Herbst device reported in the literature. Complications were analysed in relation to the overall treatment time.

Abstract
The abstract is well written and recapitulates the work.

Main manuscript
The introcuction is clearly written and emphasises the relevant information necessary to understand the aim of the study and the used methods.

Ethical approval is mentioned in the method section. However a reference number is missing. Please provide.

Methods are appropriate and well defined with clear inclusion and exclusion criteria and with enough detail that the work could be reproduced. The study participants are well described, correct protocol is applied, as well as statistical and analytical methods that are used. Methods have a practical significance, during which the results are analyzed in a scientific manner which may be the basis for the further clinical research. The authors emphasised the comparison with data reported in the literature. However, there is no search strategy mentioned in the method section to ensure that all studies which reported complications are included for comparison. Please provide information which studies were retrieved and which were included or excluded.

The result section is consistent with the relevant standards for reporting medical data.

Discussion and conclusions are well balanced. All the results of this research were included in the discussion. The conclusions are consistent with the results
and logically derived from the discussion.

The way of writing is acceptable. From all the above it is recommended that the work is accepted after minor essential revisions.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.