Reviewer’s report
Title: Comparison of potential long-term costs for preventive dentistry treatment of postorthodontic labial versus lingual enamel cavitations and esthetically relevant white-spot lesions: A simulation study with different scenarios

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Reviewer: Thomas Attin

Reviewer's report:
The paper deals with an interesting topic, which has relevance for the decision process regarding orthodontic treatments.

Minor remarks:
1) For calculation of future costs the authors set some premises in terms of future treatments. Thereby, the treatment of labial white spots was supposed to be done with composite restorations. I think that this treatment option goes too far, since only cavitations (and not WSL) should be treated with restorations. By doing this, the authors took the worst case scenario of treatment options for granted.

This aspect should be reconsidered in the calculation. It should be at least reconsidered in the title and conclusion of the manuscript.

2) I do not really understand the difference between the two following lines in the Tables:
   a) Mean total ( ) costs, per patient
   b) Mean total ( ) costs, per patients with at least 1 WSL od Cavity...

To my understanding, option a) already includes treatment of a cavity (see line 35). What is the difference between a) and b)? Please clarify.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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